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Tanks threaten republic's forces

President may quit over Croatia war

FROM ROBERT SEELEY IN ZAGREB

THE Yugoslav president threatened to resign last night as the fierce fighting in Croatia surged relentlessly towards full-scale war.

Stipe Mesic accused Serbia of instigating the violence and gave a warning that Croatia would soon go on the offensive, finally shattering the two-week-old ceasefire that is dead in all but name. He threatened to resign if the truce did not succeed.

Mr Mesic, a Croat, was speaking in Zagreb as the predominantly Serb national forces took up combat positions near Okucani, where more than a dozen people were reported killed in battles between Serbs and Croats over the weekend. The army said that it was trying to prevent further fighting by setting up a buffer zone, but Croatian authorities insisted that the federal troops were helping Serb guerrillas.

An army column entered Okucani on Saturday, while another was blocked by Croatian forces that damaged a key bridge across the Sava river from the neighbouring



republic, Bosnia-Herzegovina. That column managed to cross the river on pontoon bridges early yesterday and established a bridgehead on the northern shore of the Sava. Croatian authorities said the tanks had fired on republican positions around Okucani, although there was a lull in the fighting for most of the day.

Air force jets were also accused of bombing a police station in Nova Gradiška nearby. Federal aircraft were said to have strafed the area on Saturday night, fueling Croatian suspicions that they were helping the Serb guerrillas who are seeking autonomy for the farming region of western Slavonia.

The eight-man federal presidency held an emergency meeting late on Saturday and called for an end to the violence around Okucani. They also agreed to send 56 observers to monitor events in Croatia. The teams will be based in Karlovac and Petrinja in the centre of the republic, Gospić in the west and Ozijek, scene of some of the most bitter fighting of recent weeks, in the east.

The presidency will meet again tomorrow for what might well be the last chance to prevent all-out conflict. Mr Mesic said yesterday: "There is very little time to stop the slaughter in Croatia."

He insisted that Serbia, the biggest Yugoslav republic, was behind the violence. "It is obvious that the aggressive war is being directed from Belgrade," he said. "This is a fight for Croatian territory under the excuse of having all Serbs in one state. This is pure aggression and any further role in the presidency legitimises this dirty war in Croatia. I think that very soon I will have to decide whether to stay on in the presidency." Mr Mesic is

commander in chief of the federal forces, but the army has largely ignored him in that role.

As the Croatian defence ministry said that federal soldiers, army reservists and armed civilians were crossing from Bosnia into Croatia behind the federal tanks, Mr Mesic indicated that there were disagreements in the military about the deployment of soldiers in Okucani. He quoted Admiral Stanke Brovet, a federal deputy defence minister, as saying there had been no need for the army to enter the town, and added that a commission would try to establish who was responsible for the order.

Okucani, a mainly Serbian-inhabited town of some five thousand people, is at one of Yugoslavia's most important intersections. By establishing themselves there, the rebels could virtually cut off Slavonia from the rest of Croatia.

Yesterday, as army units reinforced positions on roads leading to Okucani, at least 200 heavily-armed Croatian national guardsmen sealed off the town and threatened to repel any attack. Ivan Vekic, the Croatian interior minister, declared on Zagreb television: "I want to say clearly and loudly: I am not going to give up Okucani."

Meanwhile, clashes continued elsewhere in the republic yesterday. Zagreb radio said one policeman had been killed, one wounded and two Croatian national guardsmen taken prisoner in an attack overnight on a patrol near Vukovar in eastern Croatia.

At his press conference, Mr Mesic read a message from Serb Krajina rebels in the Koin district in the south, threatening to destroy a police station unless it was evacuated within 24 hours. "If the police station is not withdrawn from the village, we shall attack with our own forces when it suits us," the message said. "We advise the population to seek shelter in safe places."

Refugee existence, page 8
Sarajevo waits, page 12

Iran steps up efforts to win hostage deal

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

IRAN at the weekend stepped up its behind the scenes diplomacy aimed at ending the hostage saga by hosting visits to Tehran by the leader of Lebanon's Hezbollah organisation and a Swiss envoy acting on behalf of Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations secretary general.

Moscow also sent envoys to the Middle East in a bid to bring Soviet views to bear. Diplomats said Tehran's aim was to put pressure on Israel to break the "impasse by freeing some Shia prisoners."

President George Bush said he remained optimistic about prospects for freeing Western hostages in Lebanon. However, Israeli hostage negotiators said they did not expect an immediate breakthrough.

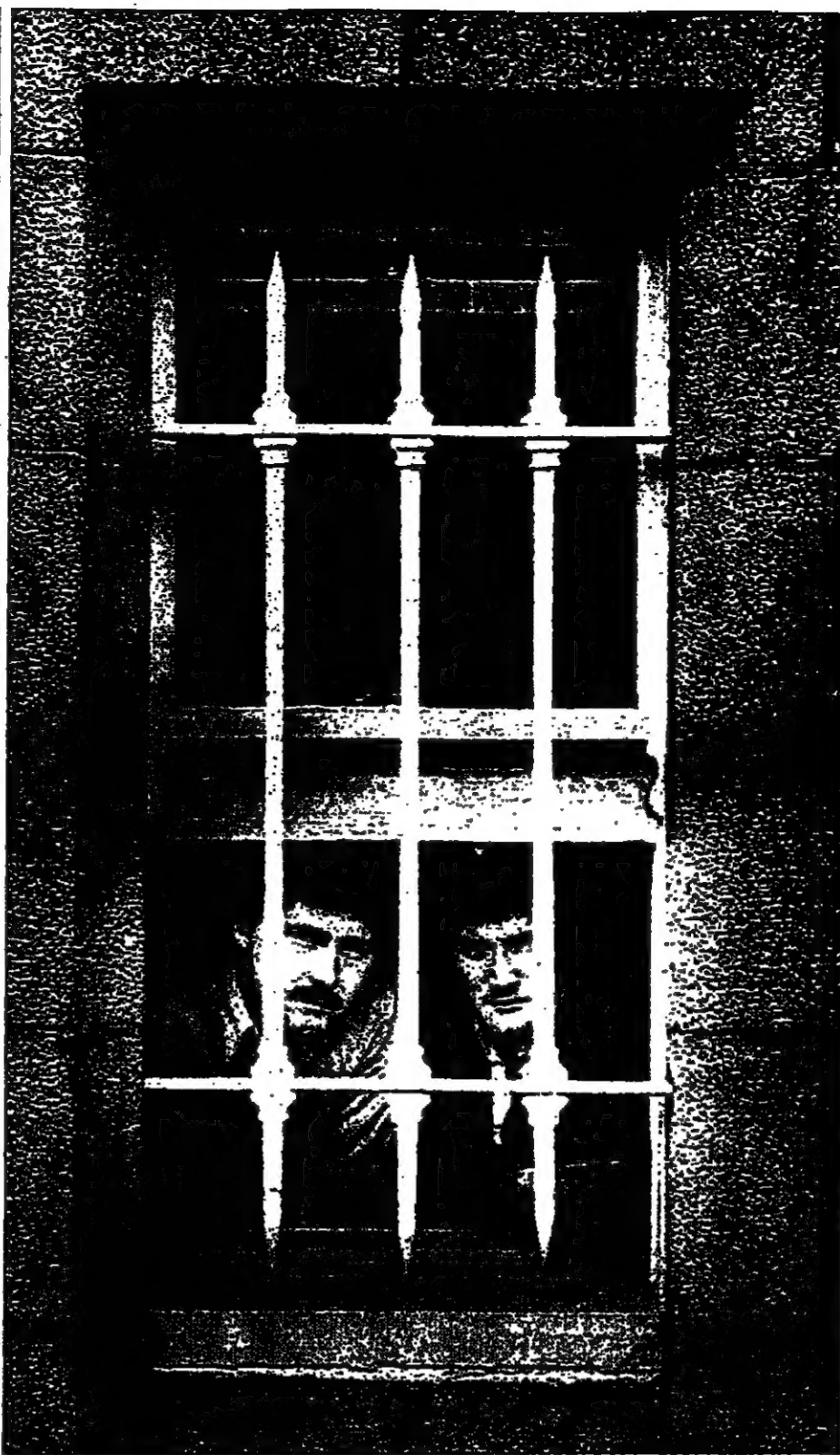
Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian foreign minister, urged visiting Euro MPs to

put pressure on Israel. "There is now a positive trend under way for the freedom of the hostages," he said.

On Saturday Abbas Musawi, the Hezbollah leader, held talks in Tehran with Mr Velayati. Tehran radio said they discussed the "latest developments in the region". Klaus Jacoby, the Swiss deputy foreign minister acting on behalf of Señor Pérez de Cuéllar, was also in Tehran.

Moscow's veteran Middle East expert, Karen Brudents, at the weekend visited Damascus where he handed over a personal letter from President Gorbachev to President Assad, while the president of the Soviet republic of Azerbaijan, Ayaz Mutalibov, held talks with Iranian leaders in Tehran.

German formula, page 9



Safe haven: Liam Keane, left, and David Madigan, Roman Catholics from Newry, Co Down, peering from a chapel window in the town's cathedral yesterday. They spent their second night in the building last night to try to escape an IRA death threat for alleged criminal behaviour (Edward Gorman writes). They said they would stay as long as the threat remained. A friend said: "They are not coming out because the

most ruthless paramilitary gang in Western Europe is ready to kill them." Cardinal Cahal Daly, the Roman Catholic Primate of All Ireland, said: "I would not allow the church to be used for any political purpose or political demonstration. But when it is a question of a stand for human life, for the defence of human beings who might otherwise have no other defence, then that is a Christian concern."

Lloyd's prepared for loss of quarter of its names

By JONATHAN PRYNN

LLOYD'S of London is braced to lose a quarter of its membership this year with underwriters, known as names, leaving the insurance market in droves after suffering heavy losses.

Names have until August 31 to notify their agents whether they wish to continue underwriting in 1992. Although hard figures on resignations will not be available until late September, indications are that agents are seeing between 20 per cent and 25 per cent of their clients opting to pull out.

Last month, David Colebridge, the chairman of Lloyd's, said that he expected about 5,000 names to resign this year. However, market sources suggest that that is likely to be an underestimate, with the actual figure likely to be between 6,000 and 7,000.

Such a drop would be the biggest ever in a single year, and would return membership to the level of about 20,000 that was seen in the early Eighties.

Last year, 2,200 members left Lloyd's, reducing the number of names to its current level of 26,568. Membership reached a peak in 1988 at 32,400. Only a few new names

are expected to be signing up for 1992.

Mark Brockbank, group managing underwriter of Hayter Brockbank, the combined company, said: "It is inevitable that you will see a lot of resignations at the end of the year." Many would be unable to meet the new wealth requirement that comes into effect for all names at the end of the year, he said. Plummeting asset values and redundancies will make it difficult for many names to raise the £250,000 minimum.

The ranks of the resigning names will be dominated by the smaller investors who entered the market during the rapid expansion of the mid-

and late-Eighties. Many have experienced nothing but losses since becoming Lloyd's members at the trough of the insurance cycle. Tom Benyon, chairman of the Association of Names, said: "They are leaving because they are fed up and they can't take it any more. They are leaving on grounds of stress."

In July, Lloyd's announced a £510 million loss for 1988, and already many names are receiving heavy cash calls for 1989. The departures will affect Lloyd's capacity to undertake business. Estimates of next year's capacity vary widely, but a fall of between 10 per cent and 15 per cent to

Continued on page 18, col 4

Summer turns frosty

GARDENERS in the South-East faced an unseasonal ground frost last night and the London Weather Centre has warned that there could be more tonight, particularly in areas with sandy soils (Tim Miles writes).

A spokesman said that ground frosts were fairly unusual at this time of year.

"Because we have had reasonably good temperatures during the day, any tender plants would be particularly at risk," he said.

Ground temperatures were most likely to fall below freezing, he added, in areas with sandy soil, which lost the day's heat more quickly than denser soils.

Rubber from washer caused Lauda disaster

After months of research experts believe they now know what caused a jet to crash in Thailand on May 27, killing 223 people, Harvey Elliott reports

A piece of rubber from a damaged washer became lodged in a hydraulic pipe and triggered, it is now believed, the chain of events which led to the crash of a Lauda Air Boeing 767 jet in which 223 people died.

After months of exhaustive tests, Boeing engineers managed to recreate the conditions which could have led to the crash and immediately informed American safety officials. They then ordered airlines to stop using reverse thrust on 767s until further notice.

The ruling affects 168 767s around the world and means that the jets will not be able to use reverse thrust on either take-off or landing until the authorities are convinced that a solution to the problem has been found.

The order, which comes into force immediately, has, however, angered British



Airways and Rolls-Royce who claim that their aircraft have a completely different system from that on the Lauda jet which crashed in Thailand on May 27.

As pilots of 767s were yesterday issued with a new set of procedures for take-off and landing, senior officials from the two British companies were preparing a detailed presentation to safety authorities on both sides of the Atlantic in an effort to persuade them to lift the ban on the use of thrust reversers from their aircraft.

For months Boeing engineers had been baffled by the crash which investigators at the scene rapidly established was almost certainly caused by the sudden deployment of the thrust reversers in flight. Repeated attempts to recreate the conditions which led to the reverser suddenly deploying failed and investigators were beginning to believe that such an incident was, in fact, "impossible".

Then, late last week, yet another test was conducted at the Boeing headquarters in Seattle in which an "O" ring seal was deliberately broken to see what would happen. To their astonish-

ment the engineers saw sections of rubber sucked into the pipe containing hydraulic fluid which led to an electrically operated sealoid valve controlling the thrust reverser. As it lodged in the pipe the flow of fluid was blocked and the valve, which should only have opened on the direct instructions of the pilot, reversed itself, allowing hydraulic fluid to activate the thrust reverser.

Investigators had been hampered by the disappearance from the remote jungle crash site of many vital pieces of equipment, including the valve which is now thought to have caused the trouble. Looters descended on the scene before experts were able to reach it and Boeing have now issued a reward for the return of any missing parts.

Within hours of the discovery of the probable cause of the crash, the Federal Aviation Administration had issued an Airworthiness Directive - a mandatory order which all American-registered aircraft must follow and which was immediately endorsed by the British Civil Aviation Authority.

British Airways was told to block off its thrust reversers on its 13 Boeing 767s and to issue crews with new manuals. Thrust reversers are of particular importance if an engine fails on take-off. If the aircraft is at maximum weight and under full power it must be able to stop even if the runway is wet or icy and if an engine fails at the critical speed just before take-off.

Although they are used on landing they have only a marginal effect on performance and their main value is to avoid heavy use of the aircraft's brakes.

BA and other airlines will now have to rely on air and wheel brakes alone, putting them under increased strain and leading to the additional cost of replacing them more frequently.

All BA's 767s are, however, powered by Rolls-Royce engines - which have no "O" ring seals - rather than the engines which caused the crash. Continued on page 18, col 5

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Wall Street celebrates downfall of a king

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN NEW YORK

THE Schadenfreude flowed all the way from Manhattan to the weekend retreats of Long Island yesterday as New York's rich and poor relished the downfall of John H. Gutfreund, the financier whose high-handed and extravagant ways became a byword for the excesses of New York's social world in the 1980s.

"He got his, and there is joy on Wall Street," the *New York Post* shouted on its front page after Mr Gutfreund announced that he would resign as chairman of Salomon Brothers Inc, the firm which he moulded in the 1980s into the top bond-trading house in the city. The company has admitted breaking rules governing the auction of Treasury securities. The board last night accepted the resignation of Mr Gutfreund, aged 61, who was once proclaimed the "King

of Wall Street" by *Business Week* magazine, as well as that of Thomas Stranas, its president.

Last night, the government first suspended Salomon's right to participate in government bond, note and bill auctions, but then lifted the suspension as four federal investigations continued. The firm's transgressions have nothing of the dramatic skullduggery of the great Eighties' felons such as Ivan Boesky and Michael Milken, the junk bond emperor, or the soap opera quality of Donald Trump's travails.

The undisputed glee springs this time from resentment over Mr Gutfreund's aggressive personal style and the opulent swash that he cut with his wife Susan in Manhattan's social world of the 1980s. The Gutfreunds, who threw some of the most lavish parties in recent history, are widely assumed to have furnished the

model for Tom Wolfe's two social-climbing characters Leon and Inez Bavardage in *The Bonfire of the Vanities*.

The press has dwelt at length on the epic shopping habits of Mrs Gutfreund, a former airline stewardess and beauty queen two decades younger than her husband, whom she married in 1981. There was, for example, the nasty row with the neighbours when she had a two-storey Christmas tree hoisted 24 floors into their East Side duplex. They moved after that into a multi-million dollar apartment on Fifth Avenue reported by admiring magazines to be a hymn to the interior decorator's art.

While Wall Street was laying off thousands of former masters of the universe in 1988, Mrs Gutfreund was

Continued on page 18, col 1
Salomon harred, page 19



Gutfreund: opulent style alienated New Yorkers

TODAY IN THE TIMES

CARLA'S ISLE

What led Carla Lane to buy the island that was a graveyard for 15 red deer? Sally Brompton meets a woman obsessed Page 10

MUSIC MASTER

Claudio Abbado brings his baton to London for two Proms. Richard Morrison profiles the top-caring conductor Page 11

EASY RYDER

David Gifford's first European Tour victory has virtually assured him of a place in next month's Ryder Cup golf team to meet the United States Page 34

BRINK OF WAR

Anne McElvoy finds Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital that sparked the first world war, awaiting the shot to plunge it into civil conflict Page 12

RABBI ROLE

Anatole Kaletsky sets off on holiday and leaves us with John Major playing an avuncular rabbi making us forget our economic woes Page 21

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Refugees from a hostile town pose threat to IRA's power



Daly: aiding defenceless is a Christian concern

THE Provisional IRA, which regards itself as the legitimate source of law and order in the "occupied territory" of Northern Ireland, is facing what could turn out to be a significant test of its authority.

Despite relatively little active support in the province, one reason why the IRA has been able to maintain its campaign for 21 years has been its ruthless refusal to compromise on methods or beliefs. Leaders of the IRA learnt long ago that if people start to believe that they can ignore its wishes, it will become unable to organise operations against the security forces and it would lose the respect of supporters.

In Newry, two men are daring to challenge that approach, and, by

taking sanctuary from a Provisional death threat in the town's cathedral, are in effect daring the IRA to kill them on holy ground.

Yesterday, Liam Kearns, aged 23, and David Madigan, 19, who sought the sanctuary of the cathedral sacristy on Saturday, said that they will not leave until the death threat against them is publicly lifted. They are among six people named by the IRA last week for allegedly engaging in criminal activity in Newry who were given until Saturday to get out of Ireland or be killed. So far, three have left and the case of a fourth who is shortly to get married, was reportedly "under review".

Mr Kearns and Mr Madigan, from Newry's republican Drum-

Fugitives in a cathedral are defying Irish paramilitary might, but a town sick of crime has little sympathy, Edward Gorman writes

lane estate, say they are innocent and hopeful that the IRA will back down. However, they looked scared as they chatted to reporters, peering through the window.

Their families have enlisted the support of three cross-community groups that oppose violence in Northern Ireland, including New Consensus, which pickets Sinn Féin and the Ulster Defence Association. Michael Nugent, chairman of New Consensus, said: "What we are doing is hoping that regardless of how low people have

sunk here, they won't cross the threshold of going into church property and murdering people."

Mr Nugent said: "The IRA have no right to tell people whether they can or can't stay in their own city. Essentially the two lads are hostages - hostages in their own city being held captive by people who are claiming to defend them."

It was hard to find anyone in Newry who agrees with Mr Nugent. Most people chosen at random do not believe that the IRA would have named the men

without reason and believe that they should get out of town. Workers leaving the cathedral made comments such as "There's no smoke without fire" and "They wouldn't just pick on anybody," both of which suggest a level of respect for the IRA among ordinary Roman Catholics not often conveyed in the media.

One teenage girl said: "They are not safe, not really safe. If the IRA's after them, they'll get them one way or another."

A taxi driver articulated the frustration with crime in Newry that leaves few with sympathy for the "hostages" in the cathedral. "They brought it on themselves," he said. "Three per cent of the population is fighting to keep

them. Ninety-seven per cent want rid of them. It speaks for itself."

David Madigan's mother, Sheila, said that he would not come out until the IRA broadcast worldwide that the threat was lifted. "These men are innocent," she said. "What jury or court have these people come in front of?"

Cardinal Cahill Daly, Roman Catholic Primate of All Ireland, said: "I would not allow the church to be used for any political purpose or political demonstration. But when it is a question of a stand for human life, for the defence of human beings who might otherwise have no other defence, then that is a Christian concern."

Fugitives in cathedral, page 1

Heseltine 'linear city' vision

Tory and Labour MPs attack east Thames expansion

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

AMBITIOUS proposals by Michael Heseltine for the redevelopment of both banks of the river Thames east of London were yesterday criticised by Tory and Labour MPs.

The environment secretary sent the outline of his ideas for the creation of a "linear city" development, running 30 miles east of Bow and Bermondsey, to 10 Downing Street last month.

Mr Heseltine is pressing the prime minister to give serious thought to the concept of developing a series of new communities as a way of regenerating vast tracts of east London, Essex and North Kent and relieving the pressure for development in the green belt of Tory heartlands west and south of London.

He would like to secure cabinet backing for his idea in time for its inclusion in his speech to the Conservative party conference in October. Mr Heseltine and his closest

aides have begun to consider a number of ideas for inclusion in the speech which, following the role he played in the toppling of Margaret Thatcher, will be one of the most important since his political comeback and a test of his popularity among the party's rank and file.

During the next four months he is preparing to release new regional planning guidance for the South-East which will set the development framework within which counties and districts must work. Mr Heseltine's close associates say he is anxious for full discussion of developing what planners call the east Thames corridor including up to 20 "mini towns" served by new roads and rail lines.

The regeneration proposals draw heavily on ideas outlined by Professor Peter Hall, the geographer and town planner, at a Serplan conference five months ago. Professor Hall is

also a part-time adviser to the environment secretary.

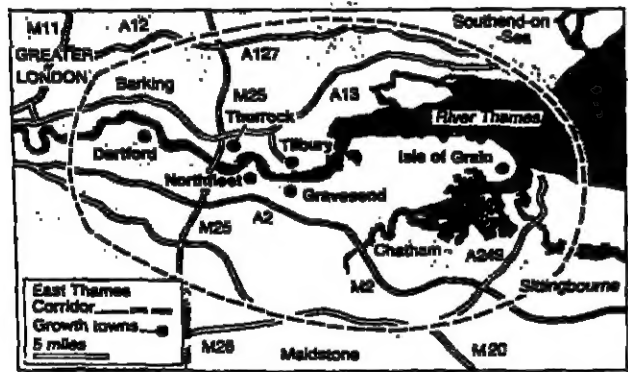
Mr Heseltine's scheme would need the coordination of existing development plans by up to 20 local authorities. He believes the private sector would play a leading role in the project though public funding would be needed for the road and rail network.

Bryan Gould, shadow environment secretary and MP for Dagenham, said: "It strikes me as another piece of Heseltine gimmickry - a grandiose gesture which will grab the headlines and then run into the sand."

The Labour MP Nigel Spearing, whose Newham South constituency includes Docklands, said any new town should not be run by another urban development corporation. Tory MPs also reacted coolly to the idea, fearing that remaining green belt land alongside the Thames would disappear and saying the area was already too congested. They were also angered by Mr Heseltine's failure to consult them about his ideas.

Sir Teddy Taylor, Conservative MP for Southend East, said: "If Mr Heseltine has grand plans to build a huge new housing development along the Thames the least he should do is to consult MPs who represent the areas concerned. The plan appears to be a recipe for congestion and chaos."

Diary, page 12



Cautious welcome from Tory councils

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

CONSERVATIVE councillors in Essex and Kent gave a cautious welcome to the Heseltine plan.

Tony Hart, Tory leader of Kent county council, said: "This has been something that we have been thinking about for a long time but it has always needed support at the highest level."

"But there will have to be investment in the infrastructure like roads and railways and we need jobs to go with the new houses. There is no point in trying to funnel more people into central London from Kent."

He said that in particular the A2/M2 route would need to be upgraded as the main artery for the new development area and the link with Europe through the Channel ports.

Bill Dixon-Smith, the immediate past chairman of Essex county council and policy chairman of the Association of County Councils, said the proposal could be "extremely interesting". But there was "a question mark over whether there was a need for a whole new mechanism to get co-ordinated development in this area rather than doing so through the existing local authorities."

The proposal offered an excellent opportunity to guarantee government funding for improvements in road and rail links. As well as urgent improvements to the line from Southend to Fenchurch Street, Mr Dixon-Smith said further work was needed on the A13 and the A127/A12 routes into London. The development might also require the creation of a third Thames crossing.

Grand plan to end housing shortage

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Heseltine's grand design for the eastern corridor city development is his answer to the underlying demand for homes in the South-East.

He has the Docklands development on the western edge of the proposed area as his model, with the Royal Docks yet to be developed. There are important lessons to be learnt from the ten years of the London Docklands Development Corporation, the most important of which is that the roads and communications infrastructure must be in place before people will come and live or work there.

At least in the Royal Docks, the roads are already in place. For the eastern corridor proposal to succeed an effective communications network must not only be promised but built, which adds pressure to the campaign to make Stratford in east London the main terminal for the Channel Tunnel rail link instead of King's Cross.

Developers have been looking east of London for some time with a view to opening up the area. One scheme in the pipeline is a large retail and leisure development by Blue Circle Industries at Blue Water Park, between Gravesend and Dartford.

The House Builders' Federation has tried in recent years to persuade the government not only of the need for houses in the South-East but also of the practicability of providing them.

While this view was opposed by Serplan, the South-East region's planning conference, as well as the Tory heartlands in the Home Counties that feared an invasion and eventually spawned the Nimby (not in my back yard) movement, Serplan did recognise the underuse of large areas east of London and produced discussion documents urging action to regenerate them.

In a speech to an urban planning conference in London in March Mr Heseltine, the environment secretary, again said that he would not relax green belt restrictions on development

but he did float the concept of comprehensive development east of London.

He has the Docklands development on the western edge of the proposed area as his model, with the Royal Docks yet to be developed. There are important lessons to be learnt from the ten years of the London Docklands Development Corporation, the most important of which is that the roads and communications infrastructure must be in place before people will come and live or work there.

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End of term: a summer school student stands among fallen masonry after the fire that broke out in a top-floor room of Prior Park College, one of Bath's finest buildings

Tories claim Labour's policies will hit jobs

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Conservatives will today launch a counter-offensive against Labour aimed at shifting attention to what they claim are the likely effects on the job market of a number of opposition policies.

Michael Howard, the employment secretary, will lead the attack as the latest opinion poll showed the Tories running neck and neck with Labour.

As Labour continued to criticise the government's economic record, Norman Lamont, the chancellor, yesterday reiterated his forecast that recovery would begin in the second half of the year.

Mr Howard is expected to claim that key opposition policies could damage industrial and employment prospects. He is likely to highlight Labour's support for a minimum wage and its energy policies which he claims would increase industry's costs. The employment secretary will argue that the opposition's endorsement of the EC's social charter would hit jobs and the efficiency of the labour market.

The counter-offensive opens as a Harris poll published in the Observer showed Labour down one point on 41 per cent, the Conservatives up a point at 40 per cent, the Liberal Democrats unchanged on 14 per cent, Greens up one

on 3 per cent and nationalists on two per cent. The percentages in the survey mean that the two main parties are running neck-and-neck.

The poll, which compares with ICM findings in the Guardian last week giving Labour a nine-point lead over the Tories, was taken before the announcement of a rise in unemployment to the highest rate for three years and of a fall in inflation to a three-year low.

In the 13 polls since Margaret Thatcher and Edward Heath clashed over Europe, only two have had the Tories as high as 40 per cent. Every poll has put the Tories at 38 per cent, plus or minus three points and in 12 of the



Lamont: offered no hope of lower interest rates

13 polls, Labour has been on 43 per cent, plus or minus three points.

Yesterday Labour party sources pointed to the solidity of their support at more than 40 per cent while ministers and Tory party strategists suggested that the opposition had failed to convince the electorate that Labour could run the economy any better. They said that given the recession, mortgage repossessions, and opposition attacks on ministerial competence, Labour's lead should have been much greater.

While ministers are braced for poor news when long-term unemployment figures are announced tomorrow, Norman Lamont yesterday offered little hope of further large cuts in interest rates which could bring relief to millions of home-owners. Mr Lamont said that the difference between interest rates in Britain and Germany had fallen to its lowest level for 10 years.

The chancellor said that those who continued to press for a further dramatic cut in interest rates had to explain how this could be reconciled with Britain's continued membership of the exchange rate mechanism.

Tony Blair, shadow employment secretary, accused the Tories of operating "blunderland economics".

Win and loss for Short

By RICHARD KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S Nigel Short, having moved a step nearer to Saturday victory in the quarter-finals of the world chess championships in Brussels by beating Boris Gelfand in game five, was defeated yesterday in the sixth game.

In the latest game, Short stumbled into an opening trap known since 1975.

In the fifth game Short finally forced the Soviet's resignation on move 61. Short now leads the eight-game match by 3½ points to 2½.

In the other matches, Viswanathan Anand (India) is adjourned against Anatoly Karpov (USSR), with Karpov leading 2½ to 1½. The sixth game is also unfinished. Jan Timman (The Netherlands) drew the fifth and sixth games with Viktor Korchnoi (Switzerland) but Timman leads by 4 to 2.

Vassily Ivanchuk (USSR) beat Artur Yusupov (USSR) in the fifth game and leads 3½ to 2½ after drawing the sixth.

Game five: White, Short; Black, Gelfand

White	Black	White	Black
1 d4	d5	28 f3	28 f3
2 c4	c5	29 e4	29 e4
3 Nf3	Nf6	30 e5	30 e5
4 e3	e6	31 f4	31 f4
5 Bb5	Bd7	32 g4	32 g4
6 dxc5	Bxc5	33 h4	33 h4
7 Qd2	Qd7	34 g5	34 g5
8 Qxc5	Qxc5	35 h5	35 h5
9 Bxc5	Bxc5	36 g6	36 g6
10 Nc3	Nc6	37 h6	37 h6
11 Bg5	Bg6	38 g7	38 g7
12 Qd2	Qd7	39 g8	39 g8
13 Nf4	Nf6	40 g9	40 g9
14 Nf3	Nf6	41 g10	41 g10
15 Nf4	Nf6	42 g11	42 g11
16 Nf3	Nf6	43 g12	43 g12
17 Nf4	Nf6	44 g13	44 g13
18 Nf3	Nf6	45 g14	45 g14
19 Nf4	Nf6	46 g15	46 g15
20 Nf3	Nf6	47 g16	47 g16
21 Nf4	Nf6	48 g17	48 g17
22 Nf3	Nf6	49 g18	49 g18
23 Nf4	Nf6	50 g19	50 g19
24 Nf3	Nf6	51 g20	51 g20
25 Nf4	Nf6	52 g21	52 g21
26 Nf3	Nf6	53 g22	53 g22
27 Nf4	Nf6	54 g23	54 g23
28 Nf3	Nf6	55 g24	55 g24
29 Nf4	Nf6	56 g25	56 g25
30 Nf3	Nf6	57 g26	57 g26
31 Nf4	Nf6	58 g27	58 g27
32 Nf3	Nf6	59 g28	59 g28
33 Nf4	Nf6	60 g29	60 g29
34 Nf3	Nf6	61 g30	61 g30
35 Nf4	Nf6	62 g31	62 g31
36 Nf3	Nf6	63 g32	63 g32
37 Nf4	Nf6	64 g33	64 g33
38 Nf3	Nf6	65 g34	65 g34
39 Nf4	Nf6	66 g35	66 g35
40 Nf3	Nf6	67 g36	67 g36
41 Nf4	Nf6	68 g37	68 g37
42 Nf3	Nf6	69 g38	69 g38
43 Nf4	Nf6	70 g39	70 g39
44 Nf3	Nf6	71 g40	71 g40
45 Nf4	Nf6	72 g41	72 g41
46 Nf3	Nf6	73 g42	73 g42
47 Nf4	Nf6	74 g43	74 g43
48 Nf3	Nf6	75 g44	75 g44
49 Nf4	Nf6	76 g45	76 g45
50 Nf3	Nf6	77 g46	77 g46
51 Nf4	Nf6	78 g47	78 g47
52 Nf3	Nf6	79 g48	79 g48
53 Nf4	Nf6	80 g49	80 g49
54 Nf3	Nf6	81 g50	81 g50
55 Nf4	Nf6	82 g51	82 g51
56 Nf3	Nf6	83 g52	83 g52
57 Nf4	Nf6	84 g53	84 g53
58 Nf3	Nf6	85 g54	85 g54
59 Nf4	Nf6	86 g55	86 g55
60 Nf3	Nf6	87 g56	87 g56
61 Nf4	Nf6	88 g57	88 g57
62 Nf3	Nf6	89 g58	89 g58
63 Nf4	Nf6	90 g59	90 g59
64 Nf3	Nf6	91 g60	91 g60
65 Nf4	Nf6	92 g61	92 g61
66 Nf3	Nf6	93 g62	93 g62
67 Nf4	Nf6	94 g63	94 g63
68 Nf3	Nf6	95 g64	95 g64
69 Nf4	Nf6	96 g65	96 g65
70 Nf3	Nf6	97 g66	97 g66
71 Nf4	Nf6	98 g67	98 g67
72 Nf3	Nf6	99 g68	99 g68
73 Nf4	Nf6	100 g69	100 g69

Black resigns

Game six: White, Gelfand; Black, Short

White	Black	White	Black
1 d4	d5	10 d4	10 d4
2 c4	c5	11 e5	11 e5
3 Nf3	Nf6	12 f4	12 f4
4 e3	e6	13 f5	13 f5
5 Bb5	Bd7	14 f6	14 f6
6 dxc5	Bxc5	15 f7	15 f7
7 Qd2	Qd7	16 f8	16 f8
8 Qxc5	Qxc5	17 f9	17 f9
9 Bxc5	Bxc5	18 f10	18 f10
10 Nc3	Nc6	19 f11	19 f11
11 Bg5	Bg6	20 f12	20 f12
12 Qd2	Qd7	21 f13	21 f13
13 Nf4	Nf6	22 f14	22 f14
14 Nf3	Nf6	23 f15	23 f15
15 Nf4	Nf6	24 f16	24 f16
16 Nf3	Nf6	25 f17	25 f17
17 Nf4	Nf6	26 f18	26 f18
18 Nf3	Nf6	27 f19	27 f19
19 Nf4	Nf6	28 f20	28 f20
20 Nf3	Nf6	29 f21	29 f21
21 Nf4	Nf6	30 f22	30 f22
22 Nf3	Nf6	31 f23	31 f23
23 Nf4	Nf6	32 f24	32 f24
24 Nf3	Nf6	33 f25	33 f25
25 Nf4	Nf6	34 f26	34 f26
26 Nf3	Nf6	35 f27	35 f27
27 Nf4	Nf6	36 f28	36 f28
28 Nf3	Nf6	37 f29	37 f29
29 Nf4	Nf6	38 f30	38 f30
30 Nf3	Nf6	39 f31	39 f31
31 Nf4	Nf6	40 f32	40 f32
32 Nf3	Nf6	41 f33	41 f33
33 Nf4	Nf6	42 f34	42 f34
34 Nf3	Nf6	43 f35	43 f35
35 Nf4	Nf6	44 f36	44 f36
36 Nf3	Nf6	45 f37	45 f37
37 Nf4	Nf6	46 f38	46 f38
38 Nf3	Nf6	47 f39	47 f39
39 Nf4	Nf6	48 f40	48 f40
40 Nf3	Nf6	49 f41	49 f41
41 Nf4	Nf6	50 f42	50 f42
42 Nf3	Nf6	51 f43	51 f43
43 Nf4	Nf6	52 f44	52 f44
44 Nf3	Nf6	53 f45	53 f45
45 Nf4	Nf6	54 f46	54 f46
46 Nf3	Nf6	55 f47	55 f47
47 Nf4	Nf6	56 f48	56 f48
48 Nf3	Nf6	57 f49	57 f49
49 Nf4	Nf6	58 f50	58 f50
50 Nf3	Nf6	59 f51	59 f51
51 Nf4	Nf6	60 f52	60 f52
52 Nf3	Nf6	61 f53	61 f53
53 Nf4	Nf6	62 f54	62 f54
54 Nf3	Nf6	63 f55	63 f55
55 Nf4	Nf6	64 f56	64 f56
56 Nf3	Nf6	65 f57	65 f57

Indecisive doctors blamed for needless heart attack deaths

FROM THOMSON PRENTICE MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT, IN AMSTERDAM

MANY heart attack victims die needlessly because hospitals deny them potentially life-saving drugs or fail to treat them quickly enough, specialists said yesterday.

International studies involving more than 60,000 patients have shown that a relatively new group of drugs called thrombolytics or "clot-busters" cut deaths by up to 25 per cent if given within a few hours of the attack.

However, many patients are denied the treatment or get it too late, Peter Sleight, professor of cardiology at the John Radcliffe hospital, Oxford, told the annual congress of the

European Society of Cardiology in Amsterdam.

He blamed indecision among hospital doctors over which patients should be given the drugs, inefficiency in emergency departments, and administrative difficulties.

"The earlier patients are treated, the better the outcome, but many physicians are still restricting therapy only to patients seen within six hours of onset of symptoms," Professor Sleight said.

Doctors were imposing rules that were too rigid when deciding which individuals should be treated, he said. Professor Sleight was one of

the organisers of the ISIS-3 international trial of the drugs, involving 46,000 patients in scores of hospitals in Europe and the United States. About 15,000 patients have taken part in similar studies.

Professor Sleight could not estimate how many heart attack victims were being denied the drugs, but he told the conference: "It is clear that many eligible patients are not being treated."

Three different types of drug are involved. They are streptokinase, the oldest and cheapest, anistreplase and t-PA, both of which have been developed more recently and are much more expensive. All three have been shown to be equally effective.

However, doctors who took part in the ISIS-3 trial were uncertain about whether 20 per cent of the patients - more than 9,000 - were likely to benefit from the treatment, Professor Sleight said.

Their doubts related to questions such as whether patients were too elderly, or were coming into hospital too long after the onset of symptoms. "It is apparent from a preliminary overview of all the relevant data that age should not be a disqualifying factor for this therapy," he said.

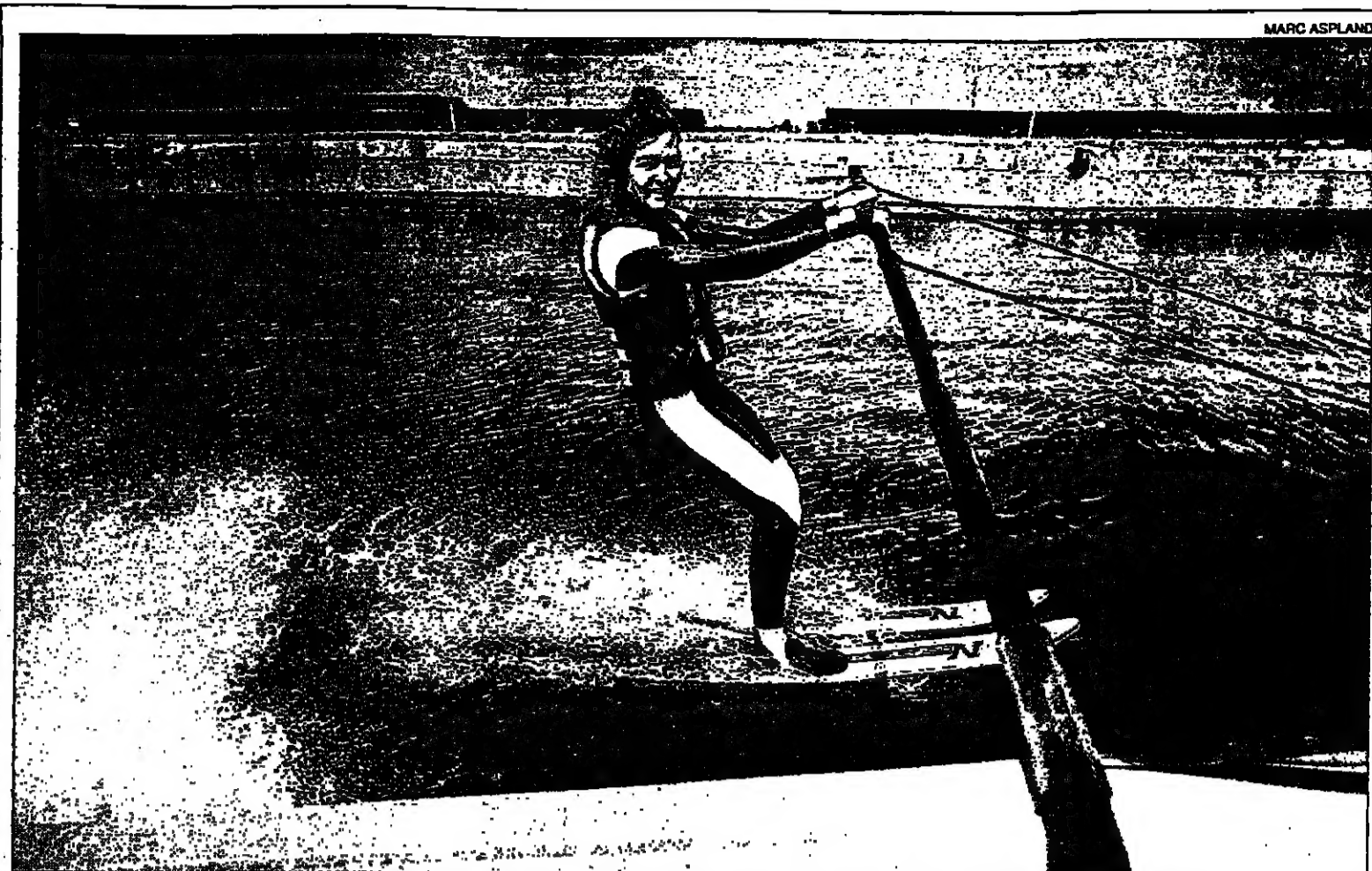
Patients aged over 70 were at increased risk of a stroke caused by the treatment, but overall their survival chances were improved by the drugs. Heart attack victims could still be given the drugs more than 12 hours after onset and get some benefit, Professor Sleight said.

"Another important factor is poor organisation in hospital, particularly between the emergency room and the coronary care unit. Treatment should not be delayed while a bed is sought in the unit, but should be initiated in the emergency room if necessary."

Douglas Chamberlain, president of the British Cardiac Society, told the conference: "We are all frustrated by the fact that we have the means to reverse many heart attacks but we fail to do so because of delays."

Those delays included the time it took a patient to call for help, the response of the GP and the ambulance service, and the time taken to assess the patient after admission to hospital.

Dr Chamberlain said the hospital delays were the easiest to change. He said the interval between the patient reaching hospital and being given a drug injection was often at least two hours and could be cut down to 15 minutes with proper organisation and training.



Beginner's luck: Helen Medhurst, from Caterham, Surrey, tries out waterskiing for the first time yesterday from the practice bar of a speedboat. A waterskiing club in King George V Dock, east London, close to the City Airport, was offering free trials as part of a special open day.

Borrie likely to challenge price fixing appeal win

By TONY DAVE

A COURT of Appeal victory by a major company involved in a price-fixing ring for the supply of ready-mixed concrete is likely to be challenged in the House of Lords.

Sir Gordon Borrie, director-general of fair trading, has told *The Times* that he will seek leave to appeal to the Lords because he believes that the case poses a serious threat to his already limited powers for policing cartels.

His decision comes as pressure is mounting on the government to implement a 1989 white paper that proposes stiffer penalties for companies guilty of making price-fixing and market-sharing agreements. The campaign is being led by local authorities, which believe that cartels in road-making and building materials are putting an extra £100 million burden on poll-tax payers.

Sir Gordon fears that the ruling in favour of Smiths Concrete, which is 49 per cent owned by the Hanson aggregates subsidiary ARC, could encourage other companies to disregard the law.

Smiths was one of several companies caught making covert deals after being banned from doing so by the Restrictive Practices' Court. Last month it was cleared in the appeal court on the grounds that the manager who had attended the price-fixing meetings had acted against the company's wishes and that it had taken all reasonable steps to prevent him.

Sir Gordon said: "It should be a matter of shame for the ready-mixed concrete industry that many of its prominent

members so quickly reverted to the price-fixing and market-sharing outlawed by the Restrictive Practices' Court. On the information I have been given, it must be very clear that any steps such companies may have taken to prevent a recurrence were largely ineffective." Smiths had been banned from entering into price-fixing agreements in the late 1970s and, under existing law, could be fined only if it repeated the offences.

The OFT discovered that from March 1983, representatives of Smiths and three other companies had met at least once a month in public houses, especially The Chequers at Newbury, Berkshire, to make market-sharing and price-fixing deals for the supply of ready-mixed concrete in Oxfordshire.

The representative had agreed which company should submit the lowest price for forthcoming contracts. They decided to allocate new business in the proportion of 43 per cent to Smiths, 21 per cent each to Pioneer Concrete (UK) and Ready Mixed Concrete (Thames Valley), and 15 per cent to Hartigan Ready-mixed, which later received a larger share.

All four firms and two of their managers were fined for contempt of the Restrictive Practices' Court last year. Smiths, the only company to contest its involvement in the cartel, received the largest fine, £25,000, but this was quashed when the appeal court ruled that Smiths had not authorised its representative to enter the agreement.

Scientists hunt for the Holy Grail of genetics

Ethical worries over the consequences of mapping human genes is confusing scientists' work, Nick Nuttall writes

THE Holy Grail of genetics, the £2 billion programme to map the human genome, will today receive the close attention of 700 of the world's leading scientists. The genome is the total amount of genetic material in a human cell.

The conference in London comes as 2,000 of the estimated 50,000 genes, the basic codes of life carried on the 23 pairs of chromosomes, have been mapped. These are already helping to shed new light on inherited diseases such as cystic fibrosis, haemophilia and Duchenne muscular dystrophy, as well as pointing the way to new and better treatments.

It is estimated that the project will take nearly 15 years to finish. Then, every inch of the 3,000 million chemical sequences which can cause more than 3,000 known inherited diseases, influence and control development and might confer skills such as musical ability, will have been mapped and plotted.

The meeting comes at an auspicious time for the project, with some scientists convinced that this week's jamboree, the eleventh of its kind, will also be its last.

To improve exchange of information between participating laboratories a computer base has been established at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. By October British scientists will be able to tap directly into the base from their laboratory computers, partly ending the need for such huge gatherings.

It also comes amid calls by scientists to collect and store for future mapping the genes of vanishing tribes and endangered peoples, including the South American Indians, the Eas of Japan and the Hill People of New Guinea. The information could be used to trace the movements of races since the beginning of time.

Delegates to this week's conference are also likely to discuss the many unresolved ethical issues surrounding their work. They include concern over the patenting of human genes and that the ability to map a person's genetic code and locate defects might be abused by employers or insurance companies.

Others argue that being able to discover that someone is at risk from an inherited disease is a more sophisticated version of the screenings already carried out when job ap-

plicants are asked about family history or medical problems.

There is also concern over whether mankind, after mapping the human genome, has the right to meddle with individual genes to improve or rid a person of certain characteristics at the request of another agent.

The host of this week's conference is the Human Genome Organisation, set up in 1988 to co-ordinate the research programme and headed by Sir Walter Bodmer, of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

Brothels urged to stop rent boy lure

By RAY CLANCY

LOWERING the age of homosexual consent and legalising male prostitution could stop boys as young as 11 being lured into working as rent boys, according to a police report to be published next month.

The Home Office, which gave a grant towards the study, said it would take note of the recommendations from Sergeant Keith Donovan, of the West Midlands police, who examined male prostitution in Birmingham, Liverpool, London and Manchester over 12 months. However, there are no plans at this stage to consider new legislation.

Sergeant Donovan found that boys from the age of 11 were recruited outside schools and in public parks and could earn up to £250 a night. They risked catching Aids as well as suffering psychologically for the rest of their lives.

The officer says in the report, *Hidden from View*, that the police are often reluctant to deal with male prostitution because of "personal discomfort and distaste" and a feeling that boys are less vulnerable than girls. He recommends that the homosexual age of consent be lowered from 21 to 18 and licensed brothels set up to take rent boys off the streets.

The report is a disturbing picture of a world where disease, petty crime, drugs and violence are commonplace. Sergeant Donovan says that other European countries have more liberal laws governing homosexual activity, especially Denmark and The Netherlands, where the age of consent for homosexuals is 15 and 16 respectively.

He found an area in Birmingham where at least 30 male prostitutes, mostly working alone, loitered in doorways and bus shelters. Clients included successful businessmen who did not want to be seen in gay pubs or clubs.

AGENDA

THE WEEK AHEAD

- Today** Confederation of British Industry/Financial Times survey of distributed trades report published. European Cardiology Congress in Amsterdam.
- Tuesday** National Audit Office report on the pollution inspectorate released. Money supply figures for July published.
- Wednesday** GCSE results sent out. HMS London leaves for Barents Sea to exercise with Soviet warships for first time since the second world war.
- Thursday** Audit Commission annual report published. Balance of payment figures for July made public.
- Friday** International Television Festival begins, Edinburgh. CBI monthly trends figures.
- Saturday** Jazz festival opens in Bude, Cornwall.
- Sunday** British Association meeting, Plymouth. Notting Hill carnival begins.

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Occupation: _____ Spouse/Partner's Occupation: _____

Phone (no time STD) Daytime: _____ Home: _____

Number of bedrooms (please tick): ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐ 13 ☐ 14 ☐ 15 ☐ 16 ☐ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐ 21 ☐ 22 ☐ 23 ☐ 24 ☐ 25 ☐ 26 ☐ 27 ☐ 28 ☐ 29 ☐ 30 ☐ 31 ☐ 32 ☐ 33 ☐ 34 ☐ 35 ☐ 36 ☐ 37 ☐ 38 ☐ 39 ☐ 40 ☐ 41 ☐ 42 ☐ 43 ☐ 44 ☐ 45 ☐ 46 ☐ 47 ☐ 48 ☐ 49 ☐ 50 ☐ 51 ☐ 52 ☐ 53 ☐ 54 ☐ 55 ☐ 56 ☐ 57 ☐ 58 ☐ 59 ☐ 60 ☐ 61 ☐ 62 ☐ 63 ☐ 64 ☐ 65 ☐ 66 ☐ 67 ☐ 68 ☐ 69 ☐ 70 ☐ 71 ☐ 72 ☐ 73 ☐ 74 ☐ 75 ☐ 76 ☐ 77 ☐ 78 ☐ 79 ☐ 80 ☐ 81 ☐ 82 ☐ 83 ☐ 84 ☐ 85 ☐ 86 ☐ 87 ☐ 88 ☐ 89 ☐ 90 ☐ 91 ☐ 92 ☐ 93 ☐ 94 ☐ 95 ☐ 96 ☐ 97 ☐ 98 ☐ 99 ☐ 100 ☐ 101 ☐ 102 ☐ 103 ☐ 104 ☐ 105 ☐ 106 ☐ 107 ☐ 108 ☐ 109 ☐ 110 ☐ 111 ☐ 112 ☐ 113 ☐ 114 ☐ 115 ☐ 116 ☐ 117 ☐ 118 ☐ 119 ☐ 120 ☐ 121 ☐ 122 ☐ 123 ☐ 124 ☐ 125 ☐ 126 ☐ 127 ☐ 128 ☐ 129 ☐ 130 ☐ 131 ☐ 132 ☐ 133 ☐ 134 ☐ 135 ☐ 136 ☐ 137 ☐ 138 ☐ 139 ☐ 140 ☐ 141 ☐ 142 ☐ 143 ☐ 144 ☐ 145 ☐ 146 ☐ 147 ☐ 148 ☐ 149 ☐ 150 ☐ 151 ☐ 152 ☐ 153 ☐ 154 ☐ 155 ☐ 156 ☐ 157 ☐ 158 ☐ 159 ☐ 160 ☐ 161 ☐ 162 ☐ 163 ☐ 164 ☐ 165 ☐ 166 ☐ 167 ☐ 168 ☐ 169 ☐ 170 ☐ 171 ☐ 172 ☐ 173 ☐ 174 ☐ 175 ☐ 176 ☐ 177 ☐ 178 ☐ 179 ☐ 180 ☐ 181 ☐ 182 ☐ 183 ☐ 184 ☐ 185 ☐ 186 ☐ 187 ☐ 188 ☐ 189 ☐ 190 ☐ 191 ☐ 192 ☐ 193 ☐ 194 ☐ 195 ☐ 196 ☐ 197 ☐ 198 ☐ 199 ☐ 200 ☐ 201 ☐ 202 ☐ 203 ☐ 204 ☐ 205 ☐ 206 ☐ 207 ☐ 208 ☐ 209 ☐ 210 ☐ 211 ☐ 212 ☐ 213 ☐ 214 ☐ 215 ☐ 216 ☐ 217 ☐ 218 ☐ 219 ☐ 220 ☐ 221 ☐ 222 ☐ 223 ☐ 224 ☐ 225 ☐ 226 ☐ 227 ☐ 228 ☐ 229 ☐ 230 ☐ 231 ☐ 232 ☐ 233 ☐ 234 ☐ 235 ☐ 236 ☐ 237 ☐ 238 ☐ 239 ☐ 240 ☐ 241 ☐ 242 ☐ 243 ☐ 244 ☐ 245 ☐ 246 ☐ 247 ☐ 248 ☐ 249 ☐ 250 ☐ 251 ☐ 252 ☐ 253 ☐ 254 ☐ 255 ☐ 256 ☐ 257 ☐ 258 ☐ 259 ☐ 260 ☐ 261 ☐ 262 ☐ 263 ☐ 264 ☐ 265 ☐ 266 ☐ 267 ☐ 268 ☐ 269 ☐ 270 ☐ 271 ☐ 272 ☐ 273 ☐ 274 ☐ 275 ☐ 276 ☐ 277 ☐ 278 ☐ 279 ☐ 280 ☐ 281 ☐ 282 ☐ 283 ☐ 284 ☐ 285 ☐ 286 ☐ 287 ☐ 288 ☐ 289 ☐ 290 ☐ 291 ☐ 292 ☐ 293 ☐ 294 ☐ 295 ☐ 296 ☐ 297 ☐ 298 ☐ 299 ☐ 300 ☐ 301 ☐ 302 ☐ 303 ☐ 304 ☐ 305 ☐ 306 ☐ 307 ☐ 308 ☐ 309 ☐ 310 ☐ 311 ☐ 312 ☐ 313 ☐ 314 ☐ 315 ☐ 316 ☐ 317 ☐ 318 ☐ 319 ☐ 320 ☐ 321 ☐ 322 ☐ 323 ☐ 324 ☐ 325 ☐ 326 ☐ 327 ☐ 328 ☐ 329 ☐ 330 ☐ 331 ☐ 332 ☐ 333 ☐ 334 ☐ 335 ☐ 336 ☐ 337 ☐ 338 ☐ 339 ☐ 340 ☐ 341 ☐ 342 ☐ 343 ☐ 344 ☐ 345 ☐ 346 ☐ 347 ☐ 348 ☐ 349 ☐ 350 ☐ 351 ☐ 352 ☐ 353 ☐ 354 ☐ 355 ☐ 356 ☐ 357 ☐ 358 ☐ 359 ☐ 360 ☐ 361 ☐ 362 ☐ 363 ☐ 364 ☐ 365 ☐ 366 ☐ 367 ☐ 368 ☐ 369 ☐ 370 ☐ 371 ☐ 372 ☐ 373 ☐ 374 ☐ 375 ☐ 376 ☐ 377 ☐ 378 ☐ 379 ☐ 380 ☐ 381 ☐ 382 ☐ 383 ☐ 384 ☐ 385 ☐ 386 ☐ 387 ☐ 388 ☐ 389 ☐ 390 ☐ 391 ☐ 392 ☐ 393 ☐ 394 ☐ 395 ☐ 396 ☐ 397 ☐ 398 ☐ 399 ☐ 400 ☐ 401 ☐ 402 ☐ 403 ☐ 404 ☐ 405 ☐ 406 ☐ 407 ☐ 408 ☐ 409 ☐ 410 ☐ 411 ☐ 412 ☐ 413 ☐ 414 ☐ 415 ☐ 416 ☐ 417 ☐ 418 ☐ 419 ☐ 420 ☐ 421 ☐ 422 ☐ 423 ☐ 424 ☐ 425 ☐ 426 ☐ 427 ☐ 428 ☐ 429 ☐ 430 ☐ 431 ☐ 432 ☐ 433 ☐ 434 ☐ 435 ☐ 436 ☐ 437 ☐ 438 ☐ 439 ☐ 440 ☐ 441 ☐ 442 ☐ 443 ☐ 444 ☐ 445 ☐ 446 ☐ 447 ☐ 448 ☐ 449 ☐ 450 ☐ 451 ☐ 452 ☐ 453 ☐ 454 ☐ 455 ☐ 456 ☐ 457 ☐ 458 ☐ 459 ☐ 460 ☐ 461 ☐ 462 ☐ 463 ☐ 464 ☐ 465 ☐ 466 ☐ 467 ☐ 468 ☐ 469 ☐ 470 ☐ 471 ☐ 472 ☐ 473 ☐ 474 ☐ 475 ☐ 476 ☐ 477 ☐ 478 ☐ 479 ☐ 480 ☐ 481 ☐ 482 ☐ 483 ☐ 484 ☐ 485 ☐ 486 ☐ 487 ☐ 488 ☐ 489 ☐ 490 ☐ 491 ☐ 492 ☐ 493 ☐ 494 ☐ 495 ☐ 496 ☐ 497 ☐ 498 ☐ 499 ☐ 500 ☐ 501 ☐ 502 ☐ 503 ☐ 504 ☐ 505 ☐ 506 ☐ 507 ☐ 508 ☐ 509 ☐ 510 ☐ 511 ☐ 512 ☐ 513 ☐ 514 ☐ 515 ☐ 516 ☐ 517 ☐ 518 ☐ 519 ☐ 520 ☐ 521 ☐ 522 ☐ 523 ☐ 524 ☐ 525 ☐ 526 ☐ 527 ☐ 528 ☐ 529 ☐ 530 ☐ 531 ☐ 532 ☐ 533 ☐ 534 ☐ 535 ☐ 536 ☐ 537 ☐ 538 ☐ 539 ☐ 540 ☐ 541 ☐ 542 ☐ 543 ☐ 544 ☐ 545 ☐ 546 ☐ 547 ☐ 548 ☐ 549 ☐ 550 ☐ 551 ☐ 552 ☐ 553 ☐ 554 ☐ 555 ☐ 556 ☐ 557 ☐ 558 ☐ 559 ☐ 560 ☐ 561 ☐ 562 ☐ 563 ☐ 564 ☐ 565 ☐ 566 ☐ 567 ☐ 568 ☐ 569 ☐ 570 ☐ 571 ☐ 572 ☐ 573 ☐ 574 ☐ 575 ☐ 576 ☐ 577 ☐ 578 ☐ 579 ☐ 580 ☐ 581 ☐ 582 ☐ 583 ☐ 584 ☐ 585 ☐ 586 ☐ 587 ☐ 588 ☐ 589 ☐ 590 ☐ 591 ☐ 592 ☐ 593 ☐ 594 ☐ 595 ☐ 596 ☐ 597 ☐ 598 ☐ 599 ☐ 600 ☐ 601 ☐ 602 ☐ 603 ☐ 604 ☐ 605 ☐ 606 ☐ 607 ☐ 608 ☐ 609 ☐ 610 ☐ 611 ☐ 612 ☐ 613 ☐ 614 ☐ 615 ☐ 616 ☐ 617 ☐ 618 ☐ 619 ☐ 620 ☐ 621 ☐ 622 ☐ 623 ☐ 624 ☐ 625 ☐ 626 ☐ 627 ☐ 628 ☐ 629 ☐ 630 ☐ 631 ☐ 632 ☐ 633 ☐ 634 ☐ 635 ☐ 636 ☐ 637 ☐ 638 ☐ 639 ☐ 640 ☐ 641 ☐ 642 ☐ 643 ☐ 644 ☐ 645 ☐ 646 ☐ 647 ☐ 648 ☐ 649 ☐ 650 ☐ 651 ☐ 652 ☐ 653 ☐ 654 ☐ 655 ☐ 656 ☐ 657 ☐ 658 ☐ 659 ☐ 660 ☐ 661 ☐ 662 ☐ 663 ☐ 664 ☐ 665 ☐

The local store has taken a long time dying, but market research is now coming to its aid

Shopkeepers must adapt and diversify to survive

By RAY CLANCY AND RONALD FAUX

ENGLAND is a nation of shopkeepers, Napoleon said after his defeat at Waterloo, repeating the phrase first uttered by the economist and philosopher Adam Smith. In those days every village had several stores but now they are lucky to have one.

The death of the neighbourhood shop was predicted in the 1960s with the rural village store the hardest hit. Market research published last week, however, indicated that the only shops that can survive are those able to adapt to the present economic climate and cater for the range of goods demanded by locals.

In 1961, England had 147,000 village shops. Since then they have been closing at the rate of thousands every year. According to the Rural Development Commission there are now only 39,000 left.

The neighbourhood shop, in towns and in the country, has suffered from the onslaught of supermarkets and improvements in town centre shopping. An estimated 50,000 outlets closed in the 1970s and 20,000 in the 1980s, according to a report published last week by Verdict Research.

Those still surviving are having to provide a wide variety of services. Newspapers are essential but the shops have to cater also for those who want three eggs rather than a half-dozen, the farmer who wants a pint of paraffin, and the elderly woman who wants a cup of flour.

The Verdict report said: "The successful shop is the one that does not try to compete with the supermarket. When it comes to price and depth of range the large outlet is bound to win. The neighbourhood store must build on its strengths — convenient location, long opening hours, products carefully selected to fit in with local needs. People expect local shops to be more expensive but many are willing to pay the price for the sake of convenience and in

emergencies." Researchers predict that the grocer, the baker and the butcher will continue their decline. Of all local shops, confectioners, tobacconists and newsagents have the largest percentage of customers with 54 per cent of people using them at least once a week. They are followed by grocers/supermarkets at 42 per cent. Only 19 per cent use butchers, 17 per cent bakers and 25 per cent chemists.

The Rural Development Commission says that many couples setting up rural businesses fail to appreciate the amount of commitment required. Beryl Smith, a small business adviser to the commission in Cumbria, has found that some couples discover that even though they have been married happily for many years, it is impossible for them to work together seven days a week.

The fact that village shops change hands on average once every 18 months speaks for itself. Often a village store cannot sustain the borrowing required. Cash flow difficulties restrict ability to buy stock and since profit levels are linked to stock, a downward spiral begins. Mrs Smith said that the village shop can become



Community power: Wootton Courtenay residents outside the village's only shop, which they saved from closure by becoming shareholders

an ideal outlet for local crafts and for partnerships with other businesses near by, particularly bakers, as well as providing film developing, videos and dry cleaning. The more services the better the business will be regarded.

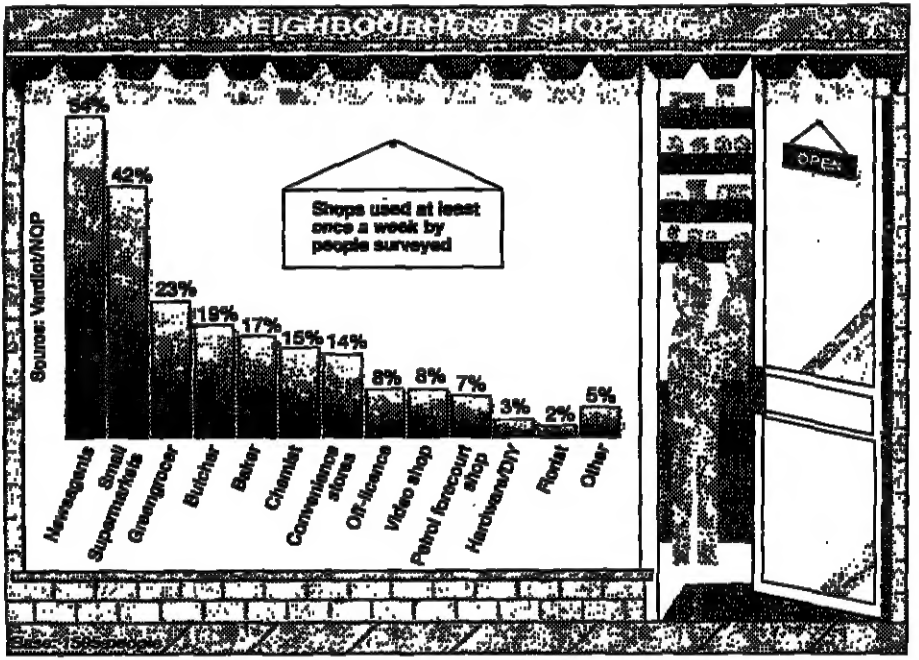
Profit depends on the mix of goods and services provided but 16 per cent is a reasonable average. About 80 per cent of sales, however, comes from 20 per cent of stock — the skill of the successful village shopkeeper lies in selecting that 20 per cent and how it will be supported by

the rest. The Post Office believes that the mail provides a vital communications lifeline in remote areas.

It enables businesses to carry out their operations by incorporating a post office within a store.

It means, however, the end of the independent grocer not affiliated to any particular wholesaler or trading group. "The future lies with the broadly based shop serving many different needs."

Leading article, page 13



Teacher reveals in switch from classroom to Cabin

THE Cabin packs the needs of Carl, Cumbria, into a small span. The shelves of Pru and Eddie Read's village shop are filled with everything from videos to washing powder, from frozen fish to The Times (Ronald Faux writes).

The couple switched their life-style four years ago when Eddie took early retirement as a deputy headmaster at a comprehensive in Preston and Pru gave up her job as secretary to a local managing director. Their three children had grown up and fled the family nest, a large house on the edge of Preston, and the couple bought a bungalow near Newby Bridge in the Lake District.

She described what happened next. "We actually became bored stupid. Eddie had planned to do supply teaching but the education authority were reluctant to give work to someone they had just paid to retire."

"We love this part of south Cumbria and have been coming here for holidays. Then two years ago we saw the Cabin on the market. It was literally a wooden cabin, pretty run down, that

had been a newsagent's and confectioner's. We bought it for £25,000, exactly Eddie's redundancy payment."

They spent three months painting and decorating the building and opened for business in March 1989 taking £87 on their first day of business.

Village shopkeeping is regarded as an odd male preserve although because of her previous job, it was Pru who had the better understanding of retailing, marketing and stock control. Eddie, a specialist in mathematics, did the sums and there was active help from the Rural Development Commission.

"You get out of it what you put in. Try your best to provide a service to the community, and have as many lines as you can, reasonable stock, and people will support you. If the villagers take you on you will run a successful business," Pru says.

Carl has a population of 600 which doubles when the summer visitors arrive. Not many years ago the village was served by five or six shops, now only the Cabin, a

draper's shop and the local post office survive. The nearest supermarket is 20 miles and more than a gallon of petrol away.

"In an odd way the recession has actually helped us. People are less inclined to go to the supermarket and do one big weekly buy-in. They are more careful with their money and buy day-by-day from the village shop, where there is less likelihood of being lured into buying non-essentials," she says.

Since moving in, the original wooden cabin has gone and only the name remains on a new building twice the size and with living accommodation upstairs. Turnover has risen from £853 in the first week to £6,200 and the shop, open seven days a week, employs one full-time and four part-time staff.

The Reads have few regrets. They live and work in an appreciating asset in a beautiful part of the country and their shop is an important focal point in the community. Regrets? That they did not discover Carl two years ago and those long, well-remembered school summer holidays.

Residents chip in to save last shop

THE village of Wootton Courtenay had two stores, three pubs, two tailors, two bakeries, a carpenter and a forge in the 1930s. A year ago the only remaining village shop was making a loss and about to close down (Ray Clancy writes).

The experience of the 280 villagers — the population has remained more or less the same — is typical of country areas all over Britain but the solution they found in Somerset was unique. More than 140 villagers are now shareholders in the Villagers' Store Ltd after using their savings to rescue the shop. No dividends or profits are expected at the first annual general meeting next month but instead champagne and congratulations all round.

Andrew Quarry, the shop owner, had plenty of business but found high interest rates crippling. After making repayments on his mortgage he simply did not have enough money to live on and so put the shop and three-bedroom flat above up for sale at £130,000.

The nearest shops were seven miles away in Minehead with a twice-weekly bus service the only form of public transport. A meeting was called and 98 per cent of the residents turned up to hear Paddy Parnell, a recent arrival, having moved to the village 14 years ago, suggest that the residents use their combined savings to buy the shop.

The idea was voted a winner and a few weeks later £80,000 had been raised with contributions ranging from £100 to £5,000. A second appeal brought more donations and a £10,000 loan from the Rural Development Commission and an agreed selling price of £125,000 sealed the deal.

Now the glass-fronted shop nestles comfortably amidst the rose- and honeysuckle-clad pink and cream cottages and the villagers know that their only shop is safe.

"This place would have died if the shop had closed. The garage and the post office would have been next and then the petrol station," said Mr Parnell, who ran the shop for the first few months.

Now every morning at 8.30 there is a queue all the way along the main street as villagers arrive for their newspapers, milk and bread.

Historic sites of England win record total of visits

By ROBIN YOUNG

VISITS to historic properties in England rose by 2 per cent last year to reach a record total of 71 million, generating revenue of £154 million, a 12 per cent increase on 1989.

For the second year running, Northumbria recorded the fastest growth in visits to historic sites among the 12 English regions, with an 8 per cent increase. The English Tourist Board, which monitors the figures, says that Northumbria's appeal was enhanced by the Gateshead garden festival.

The most rapid increase in visits for a property was claimed by Smeaton's Tower, owned by Plymouth City Council, up by 72 per cent. Second place went to another council-owned property, Tamworth Castle, Staffordshire, where Tamworth borough council saw admissions rise by almost half last year.

Over half the 58 properties attracting more than 200,000 visitors in 1990 were cathedrals or churches. Most popular of all was Westminster Abbey, which drew an estimated three million visitors. The Tower of London had the highest number of paid-for admissions, at 2.3 million, a 4 per cent increase on 1989.

Increases in attendances were also reported from the six next most popular historic properties charging for admission: the Roman baths and pump room at Bath, with 950,000 visitors, up 2 per cent; the state apartments in Windsor Castle, with 855,000, up 6 per cent; Stonehenge with 703,000, up 3 per cent; Warwick Castle with 685,000, up 8 per cent; Shakespeare's birthplace in Stratford-upon-Avon with 604,000, up 6 per cent; and Leeds Castle, Kent, with 540,000 visitors, an increase of 2 per cent.

By December, more than 437,000 buildings were listed by the environment department as being of architectural

PROPERTIES RECORDING TOP INCREASES IN VISITOR NUMBERS LAST YEAR

	1989	1990	% change
Smeaton's Tower, Plymouth	38,252	65,865	+72
Tamworth Castle, Staffs	35,375	52,636	+49
Upton House, Banbury	32,988	48,604	+47
Hastings Castle	48,000	66,700	+39
New Place, Stratford	79,017	102,230	+28
Hall's Croft, Stratford	76,421	98,922	+29
Capethorne Hall, Macclesfield	56,000	70,000	+25
Mary Arden's House, Stratford	107,453	131,430	+22
Dryden Park, Avon	42,986	52,162	+21
Ardscoil Romaine, South Shields	42,451	51,148	+20
Lanfrydrock House, Bodmin	123,890	148,241	+20

Sources: English Heritage, National Trust and English Tourist Board.

or historic merit, an increase of nearly 200,000 since 1976. More than 6,000 properties are now listed Grade I, meaning that they are of exceptional interest, and about 23,000 are rated Grade II* as being of particular importance.

The number of conservation areas, now 7,200, has more than doubled in the past 15 years. In that period, there were applications to demolish more than 8,000 listed buildings, and consent was given in more than 40 per cent of cases. The board says, however, that the rate of demolition is now only a quarter of that in 1979.

Counties with more than 15,000 listed buildings are Kent (20,808), Devon (19,205), Avon (16,699), Essex (16,227) and Greater London

(15,174). Listed buildings are thickest on the ground in Avon, London, Merseyside, West Yorkshire, and Tyne & Wear, while the highest densities per 100,000 people are in Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Hereford and Worcester.

An extra 280 historic buildings have opened to the public since 1977, but many churches have been locked for fear of theft and vandalism.

The average entry charge to historic properties has risen from 32p in 1977 to £1.73 this year. More than 770 charge over £1, up from nine 15 years ago.

The English Heritage Monitor 1991 (English Tourist Board, Department D, 24 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1W 0ET, £15)

Ministry puts birthplace of radar up for sale

By JOHN YOUNG

BAWSEY Manor, a Victorian mansion on the Suffolk coast which was the birthplace of radar in the 1930s, has been put up for sale by the defence ministry.

As RAF Bawsey, it was the headquarters of a team of scientists under Sir Robert Watson-Watt, who developed the identification and air interception systems which played a crucial role in the second world war.

The house, which overlooks the mouth of the river Deben, was built as a summer home for Sir Cuthbert Quilter, founder of the National Phone Company in about 1886. Sir

Cuthbert was also MP for Sudbury for 21 years and introduced the Pure Beer Bill to prevent brewers from adulterating their products.

A lover of boats and the sea, he eventually made Bawsey his main home, adding towers at either end of the house. He also extended the estate to 8,000 acres, stretching from the mouth of the river to Woodbridge.

In 1936 the house and 168 acres with cottages and outbuildings were sold to the Air Ministry for £24,000. When war broke out, it was the first operational radar station in the country. It continued to monitor flights from airfields in eastern England throughout

the war, but the research programme was moved to a less vulnerable location.

In the 1950s it reverted to a top secret role as part of the RAF Rotor plan to protect radar systems from nuclear attack. It was later closed and then reopened as a Bloodhound missile base, and finally decommissioned earlier this year.

The house is a curious mixture of the grandiose and the mundane. The great hall and main rooms are lavishly decorated, while the rest consists of drab, institutional classrooms and bedrooms.

The house, with about 150 acres, is for sale by tender, and offers close on October 1.



For sale with 150 acres: Bawsey Manor, on the Suffolk coast

Union fights for training courses

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

EXTRA training for teachers to improve their classroom control will have to end because the government has withdrawn financial support, a teachers' union claims today.

Two separate schemes to train and support teachers dealing with disruptive and violent pupils were set up last year after a government-commissioned report from Lord Elton on discipline in schools in England and Wales. Lord Elton, a former Home Office minister, said that it was essential that teachers were given more training in classroom management and that this should become a national priority for funding under training grants from 1990 until at least 1994.

The Association of Teachers' Mistresses and Masters today said that the government indicated that funds would be available for three years but that it was now "quietly dropping" support. A three-year scheme to offer support to teachers and schools with specific problems amounting to £2.2 million will end in 1993.

Meryl Thompson, head of the association's policy unit, said: "It is unbelievable that the government can withdraw

support not only on an issue which is central to its own school policies but one which is of great concern to parents and teachers."

The education department said that the government had guaranteed spending for only two years. "We have not withdrawn funding, it has simply come to an end."

University students will be offered two and four-year courses as well as the traditional three-year degree by the mid-1990s under proposals to be put to the government. Some science courses are already being extended to four years while Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, has told universities that he expects some degrees to be completed within two years.

A group of 12 mathematicians chaired by Peter Neumann, a fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, has suggested that students who wish to become professional mathematicians should be offered a four-year course.

The proposals are designed to attract more people into mathematics at a time when A-level students are deserting maths and science in favour of arts subjects. Mr Neumann said that his committee, set up by the London Mathematical Society, wanted to encourage more people to choose mathematics for their degree course even if they wanted to follow other professions when they left university. The four-year course would attract the very best mathematicians who would go on to teach in higher education or work in banking and accountancy at the top level.

A four-year system is already being planned for some science courses and the maths committee hopes that it will be possible to introduce a four-year course by September 1994.

Education, pages 24-25

Surprise £1,000 donation saves Constable exhibition

By JOHN SHAW

AN ART exhibition hit by a cash crisis received a surprise £1,000 donation during a private viewing at Gainsborough House Museum, Sudbury, Suffolk, at the weekend. An anonymous benefactor handed a cheque to Hugh Belsey, curator of the museum, which is mounting the exhibition, tracing the origins of landscape painting in Britain.

Preparations were well under way earlier this year when the sponsor, the Heim Gallery of Jermyn Street, London, went into receivership and

ceased trading in June. Its backing, and an equal amount from the government, would have meant total funding of about £15,000.

"This gentleman read of our difficulties, rang up and came forward with the money," Mr Belsey said yesterday. "We usually get about 2,500 people a month at this time of year and we would like double, if not triple, that to cover our costs."

"There are a lot of things here which have never been seen before, covering the whole range of influences on John Constable. He

took a long time to get going as an artist. The first pictures which indicate what he might eventually do emerged when he was 26 in 1802."

David Thomson, son of Lord Thomson of Fleet, the newspaper proprietor and one of the exhibition lenders, has also made a contribution and the latest cheque will help to reduce the shortfall to about £11,000.

The exhibition, From Gainsborough to Constable: the emergence of naturalism in British landscape painting 1750-1810, is

open at the museum until October 13 and then moves to the Leger Galleries, Old Road Street, from November 14 to December 4.

The rising values of paintings by the Prince of Wales have prevented a village church from putting five on display to the public. Hundreds of visitors visited St Mary's Church at Burnham Market, Norfolk, yesterday to see the prince's latest four watercolours.

The church was offered nine paintings by the prince but could not afford the insurance to display them all. It paid a premium of

about £500. The prince's watercolours are believed to be valued at £10,000 each for insurance purposes.

A gold medal awarded to Sir Rowland Hill by the Royal Society of Arts in 1863, for his creation of the Penny Post, is expected to make up to £10,000 at Phillips in London on September 5. The medal will be sold with an illuminated parchment scroll and solid silver box marking his honorary freedom of the Fishmongers Company. The scroll and heavily engraved box have a pre-sale estimate of £10,000-£15,000.

BAOR may hand back 40 bases to Germans

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

ABOUT 40 garrison stations used by soldiers from the British Army of the Rhine are expected to be handed back to the Germans under the government's plans to bring home 33,000 troops from Germany. BAOR commanders have been holding talks with the German authorities since last month's detailed announcement by Tom King, the defence secretary, of his plans for restructuring the army. The 55,000 British soldiers in Germany are housed in about 13 garrisons in the north and centre, but there are more than 80 smaller garrison stations stretching from Mönchengladbach to Hamburg. The list of stations to be closed has been agreed with the Germans and an announcement is expected this month. Many stations to be closed are in BAOR's rear combat area, and closures will have a significant effect on the prosperity of their districts. Under plans agreed within Nato, Britain is to play the

leading role in a multinational rapid reaction corps, one of several formations being created to replace standing armies in Germany. Its contribution will comprise a division of 25,000 in Germany and a lighter armed division in southeast England.

The size and shape of the new allied formations were agreed within Nato, but Britain and Germany were left to decide on a bilateral basis which garrisons would be retained for the single British division.

It was announced in November that two of the RAF's four bases in Germany are being closed.

● The Royal Navy's destroyer and frigate fleet could be cut to 30, in spite of a government pledge to retain about 40 warships, according to a report yesterday.

Yards have been invited to tender for up to three more Type 23 frigates, but fears are growing in the shipbuilding industry that the Treasury will allow only two, and that contracts will not be awarded until spring at the earliest.

Under the "options for change" defence review, the naval strength of some 50 destroyers and frigates is to be reduced to 40. However, after old warships approaching 25 years' service are phased out over two years, orders for replacements will be needed each year to guarantee the 40-ship fleet, according to naval sources.

The magazine *International Defence Review* claimed that orders for the Type 23 Duke-class frigates would be a rate of less than two a year and that plans for a second batch would be cancelled. The hidden cuts, the report said, would have grave implications for Nato and the European naval force structures.

Orders for a new Anglo-French anti-air warfare frigate, to replace the current Type 42 destroyers, would also be at a lower rate, starting in 1996, and it would not be in service until the next century.

While Britain's naval fleet is being cut, the Soviet Union is increasing its fleet at the rate of ten hulls a year. The Soviet northern fleet has some 287 vessels, including submarines and support ships.

● Gibraltar is bracing itself for problems after alarm in the local branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union about the effects of continued cuts in British defence spending and the recession generally. The union has given Joe Bossano, Gibraltar's chief minister, a 15-point rescue plan. Unemployment could rise to 15 per cent by early 1993, according to John Gomez, a union official.

His prediction comes at a time when the Rock is locked in debate over how it should move forward constitutionally to try to ease the pressure on the economy from Spain's campaigning to further its claim and from the diminishing British presence.

Prisoners found hanged

A man who was serving a life term for murder was found hanged in his cell at Wakefield prison yesterday. William McLiech Mackenzie Patrick, aged 31 was jailed in 1988. At Dorchester prison, Raymond Peringer, aged 45, of Weymouth, was found hanged from his cell bars. He was on remand after being charged with the attempted murder of his former wife, Paul Orange, 29, of Holbeck, Leeds, was found dead in his cell at the Leeds Bridewell. He had been arrested for alleged drunkenness three hours earlier.

Baby reclaimed

A mother was reunited with her baby girl after abandoning the child in a cardboard box outside Johnson's hospital, Spelling, Lincolnshire.

Crash victims

Two men killed when their plane crashed at Ashampstead, Berkshire, on Saturday were named as Geoffrey Wilcox, aged 39, of Waltham St Lawrence, Berkshire, and Robert Chamberlain, 67, of Harley Wintney, Hampshire.

Lorry accident

Gary Hillyard, aged 19, of Laverstock, Wiltshire, was critically ill after being hit by a lorry's wing mirror and sent crashing through the window of a public house at Stoford, near Salisbury.

Bond winners

Winners in the weekly National Savings Premium Bonds prize draw: £100,000, bond number RK 136888, Middlesex, value of holding £170, £50,000, 29ZF 313765, Hereford and Worcester, £9,790, £25,000, 7AS 756474 west London, £1,000.

Tree planter's vision is forestry with a human face

Scotland's natural woodlands have been under siege for a long time, most recently by sitka spruce. Kerry Gill reports on one man's ecological mission

IN THE grounds of his farmhouse, on the west coast of Sutherland overlooking the sound of Handa, Bernard Planterose daily tends his nursery of birch, willow, oak, hazel and rowan. His aim is to promote alternative woodlands that will produce a rich ecological mix in his corner of northwest Scotland.

Mr Planterose, who started *The Tree Planter's Guide to the Galaxy* magazine two years ago, rears about 50,000 native trees a year outside the village of Scourie. He hopes that his company, Reforesting Scotland, will soon achieve charitable status. The company's remit is to integrate native woodland management with other forms of land use, and put trees back on to the land to increase its fertility.

Woods used to cover a good part of Scotland, a mix of Scots pine and birch in the central and east Highlands, and mainly birch with localised oak and hazel in the west and far north. Today only 14 per cent is under trees, of which only 1 per cent is native woodland, Mr Planterose says. The alien sitka spruce forest has taken over the hills, its regimented lines introduced by deep ploughing, drainage and bulldozed access roads, destroying natural habitats.

Efforts by individuals such as Mr Planterose, however



Tree massacre: Martin Mathers, of the World Wide Fund for Nature, on the bare slopes of Glencoe, where only outcrops of birch and rowan survive

small, are welcomed by the World Wide Fund for Nature, which recently formed its forest unit, charged with conserving temperate, northern and savannah forests as well as those in the tropics. Martin Mathers, of the fund, said that forest management in Britain should set an example. "At present it doesn't, so it's very difficult for us to complain about

what people are doing to, say, the Brazilian rain forest or the forests of British Columbia," he said. More than 12,000 acres of Scotland were planted with conifers each year while ancient natural woodlands of Scots pines, birch, oak, hazel and rowan were disappearing.

Mr Mathers pointed to Glen Falloch, above Loch Lomond, where the native

pinus have all but died out, largely due to over-grazing by generations of sheep. A small area fenced off for research showed that the pines could regenerate surrounded by natural vegetation if managed properly. "What is left of this ancient forest will have probably gone within the next 20 years. This example is the worst pine wood I know of. You can

compare Glen Falloch with Abernethy forest, which is properly managed and is possibly the best that survives," he said. Further north, near Tyndrum, is another pine wood surrounded by commercial planting. It is gradually dying but could be saved if sheep were kept at bay. On the edge of Loch Leven is an example of what can happen when

spruce are planted on a steep hillside. Winds have toppled trees in their thousands causing landslip and erosion. There are similar sights all over the Highlands. Even at Glencoe, scene of the bloody massacre of 1692 and ravaged by sheep introduced after the Highland Clearances, native trees have been reduced to outcrops of birch and rowan in rocky clefts.

Training places loss criticised

By DOUGLAS BROOM

THE government was criticised yesterday over the collapse of the only national training programme for homeless teenagers.

For the past 12 years, Service Away From Home has provided accommodation and training in the caring professions for 100 homeless young people aged 16-17 each year. Most have left local authority care or remand hotels and without the two-year scheme would not have been able to take up training places.

The scheme has fallen foul of the transfer of responsibility for training in April from the employment department to the 83 Training and Enterprise Councils (Tecs). As a nationwide scheme, the service does not come under the control of any one Tec, and a failure to agree who should fund it means it will close in three weeks.

Margaret Hoodless, executive director of Community Service Volunteers, which runs the scheme, said the health department would spend £1 million to provide 70 beds a year for homeless young people yet the employment department would not continue to provide the £800,000 to guarantee accommodation and training for 100 young people. "This programme should be expanded not destroyed," she added.

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Foreign food eats its way into British affections

By ROBIN YOUNG

TRADITIONAL British cooking is good enough for only a third of households these days, according to the market researchers Mintel. Steak and chips are being ousted by foreign fare such as Peking duck, chicken tikka and chilli con carne.

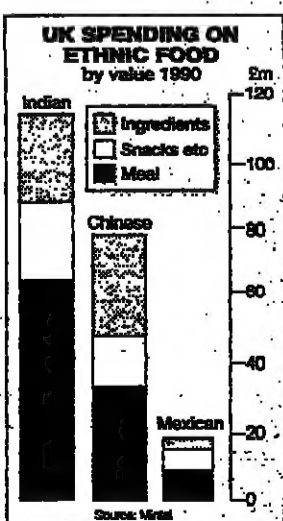
A poll of 979 housewives found that only a third claimed that they never ate ethnic foods.

More than two fifths of the respondents claimed to have prepared Chinese and Indian recipes in the past six months, and almost a quarter had tried their hand at Tex-Mex cuisine, such as chilli con carne.

The survey excluded takeaway meals, but included meals made from basic ingredients and those bought part-prepared and finished in the home.

An eighth of the housewives had dabbled in Spanish cooking, while smaller proportions had attempted Turkish kebabs, Afro-Caribbean dishes, Thai and Malaysian delicacies, or Japanese sushi.

The retail sales markets for Chinese food ingredients was estimated at £30 million last year and £26.5 million for Indian ingredients. The



amount spent on Mexican ingredients totalled £2.2 million.

When takeaway meals, snacks, side dishes and accompaniments are included, Mintel estimates that the market for Indian food consumed in British homes totalled £115 million last year, having increased by 60 per cent since 1983. The value of the Chinese food market had grown by 52 per cent to reach £79 million, and home consumption of Mexican foods such as tortillas and chilli sauces was up

70 per cent, bringing total sales to £17 million. Fastest growing were the markets for foods from other countries such as Greece, Turkey, Thailand and Japan, which when grouped together had increased their value by 383 per cent in three years, bringing last year's sales to about £29 million.

The researchers found that those aged under 34 ate more ethnic food than other groups. The higher the socio-economic group the more likely respondents were to eat ethnic food at home.

There were no marked differences between different regions of the country though those in London and the South ate slightly more ethnic food than those elsewhere because of the more widespread availability of specialised ethnic foodstuffs.

The researchers suggest that markets for home ingredients tend to follow the number of ethnic restaurants available and point out that the number of Thai, Malaysian and Japanese restaurants in the country is still small and confined to comparatively small areas.

Ethnic Food Market Intelligence (Mintel Publications Ltd, 071-606 6000, £185)



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While others use
starch to thicken
their tomato ketchup,
Heinz just use tomatoes.

ANC dissidents allege torture in prison camps

From RAY KENNEDY in JOHANNESBURG

TWENTY African National Congress dissidents, including a number who acted as agents for South African intelligence, alleged here yesterday that they had been tortured by the ANC at its prison camps in Angola and Uganda.

The dissidents, looking thin and bedraggled, were taken at once to a debriefing session with South African officials. Straight after the meeting, 20 asked to break away from the original group and were taken to a hotel in Johannesburg.

One of the 20 being guarded by South African police, Joachim Ribeiro de Souza, said that during the five years he was held by the ANC, he was beaten and kicked unconscious.

"At one stage, I woke up and found I was hanging upside down. My head felt like it was going to burst. I must have been hanging that way for hours," he said. Others had been falsely accused by the ANC of spying. Mr Ribeiro de Souza said he joined the ANC in 1981 and served in its guerrilla wing. South African security police detained him in 1986 and tried to get him to spy. He refused, but after his return to exile was imprisoned by the ANC.

ANC leaders, including Oliver Tambo, the then president, visited the prisons in Angola and Uganda and knew about the bad conditions.

Last week, Pretoria and the UN high commissioner announced they had agreed on the voluntary repatriation of exiles, who will not have to give an account of their "political crimes" when seeking indemnity. But the government reserves the right to prosecute returning exiles alleged to have committed serious common-law crimes.

The ANC expressed its disquiet about the agreement at the weekend, and Dr Max Coleman, of the independent Human Rights Commission, said exiles had no more guarantee of returning home than the remaining 1,000 political prisoners still held in South Africa had of release before there was a new government.

Nelson Mandela, the ANC president, and President de Klerk are due to meet today to discuss the country's education problems and negotiations on a new non-racial system.

Protest group disbands: The United Democratic Front was dissolved yesterday, after a closing rally near Cape Town, saying that its battle for non-racial democracy would soon be achieved in South Africa.

Murphy Morobe, the publicity secretary of the front, said: "Today, as the UDF closes shop, even that constitution which we sought to render ineffective is on its deathbed." The front, a coalition of 750 groups, was formed eight years ago to support the ANC. (Reuters)



Wave guides: residents of the Australian Sunshine Coast, north of Brisbane, dragging a 30-tonne young humpback whale back into the sea after the 29ft creature became disorientated and beached itself

Body of British diver recovered

Hong Kong - Three British divers and a New Zealander trapped in a decompression chamber on a barge which sank in stormy waters off Hong Kong last week have been confirmed dead (Jonathan Braude writes).

The bodies of two of the men, Terry Dennyson, a Briton, and John Lyons, the New Zealander, who were caught in the chamber when the oilpipe-laying Derrick Barge DB29 capsized in a typhoon, have been recovered and identified. Trevor Berry, the search mission co-ordinator, said the other divers, Steve Hardy, of Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire, and Brian Sheppard, must be presumed dead, although the chamber is still missing in 400ft of water.

Somali appeal

Mogadishu - Ali Mahdi Muhammad, of the United Somali Congress party, was sworn in for a two-year term as president of Somalia, which is embroiled in civil war. Thousands heard him call for unity against forces loyal to the ousted military ruler, Siad Barre, and pleaded to restore law and order. (AFP)

Tamil suicides

Bangalore - Twelve Tamil Tiger guerrillas committed suicide by swallowing cyanide rather than be captured in police raids on their southern Indian hideouts. Five were captured alive and members of a special team investigating the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi, the former prime minister, are to question them. (Reuters)

Bhutto absent

Lahore - Benazir Bhutto, the former Pakistan prime minister, failed to appear before a special tribunal here, bringing a demand by the state counsel that she should be arrested. Miss Bhutto, who is in Karachi, had been summoned to answer charges of misuse of power filed by President Ishaq Khan. (AFP)

Exile returns

Yaounde - Thousands of supporters greeted Bello Bouba Maigari, the former Cameroonian prime minister, when he returned home after seven years of self-imposed exile in Nigeria. (AFP)

Harare rejects pleas for mercy

From MICHAEL HARTNACK in HARARE

PRESIDENT Mugabe of Zimbabwe is ignoring appeals from the African National Congress to contribute to detente in southern Africa by freeing five former members of the Rhodesian security forces held in Zimbabwe jails.

Among the prisoners in Chikurubi maximum security prison outside Harare is Dennis Charles "Sammy" Beahan, aged 41, from Manchester, who joined the Rhodesian Special Air Service after he left the Parachute Regiment in 1974.

He had been working as a hotel security guard in Randburg, South Africa, when he was recruited for the bungled South African commando raid on a Zimbabwean prison van ferrying captured South African agents to court in 1988. He was sentenced to life imprisonment, after allegedly being tortured into making a confession.

With Beahan is a white Zimbabwean, Barry Bayden, aged 33, serving a life sentence for siding the South African anti-ANC raids which wrecked the Commonwealth "eminent persons' group" initiative in 1987.



Mugabe: refusing ANC request to free prisoners

The three were sentenced to be hanged for killing a Zimbabwean driver in a car-bomb attack in January 1988 on an ANC "safe house" in Treanance, Bulawayo. In mitigation, they said the ANC's bombing campaign against South African civilian targets was then at its height.

It is ironic that their old foe, the ANC, should have taken up their cause, sending envoys to plead with President Mugabe for their freedom in the hope that this will disarm right-wing hysteria over the pardons sought for condemned ANC saboteurs. Most controversial of these is Robert McBride, who killed three white women when he bombed a cocktail bar. But President Mugabe believes the five are in an especially heinous moral category because they were acting on behalf of a foreign power, not fighting their own government as were the ANC cadres.

Killer's motive baffles police

From ASSOCIATED PRESS in SYDNEY

POLICE yesterday began to put together a psychological profile of the taxi driver, aged 33, who killed seven people and then himself in a shopping mall in suburban Sydney on Saturday, but his motive remained a mystery.

Armed with an assault rifle and a machete, the man stabbed to death a girl of 15, then fatally shot six other people in Strathfield before killing himself. "It's hard to figure out," a police officer told a news conference.

Police are withholding the gunman's name, to give his sister, with whom he lived, time to move to a new home to avoid publicity. The man had inherited money after his mother died about a year ago. The police would not disclose

the amount, but Australian Associated Press put the figure at \$400,000 (£190,000).

The police said the man had a licence for the assault rifle, a Chinese-made self-loading automatic weapon. Bob Hawke, the prime minister, said he would immediately begin talks with state governments to adopt uniform gun laws. New South Wales allows the import of some foreign-made or designed rifles; other states do not.

At least eight other people were injured in the incident. Six remained in hospital yesterday, one in a serious condition, the others stable. A woman aged 47 who had been injured died about eight hours after reaching hospital. Two men and five women, not

including the gunman, were killed in the ten-minute incident.

According to initial accounts, the man first attacked Roberta Armstrong, a coffee shop assistant, repeatedly plunging the knife into her back. He then took up the assault rifle and shot three women sitting in the shop. Two of those killed were mother and daughter.

George Mavris, who owned the shop, was killed next, shot in the chest as he ran from the kitchen to see what was happening. The gunman walked out into the plaza, firing at shoppers who dived for cover or ran for their lives. He killed another man on the way to the upper-level car park, where he then shot himself.

Drug boss pleads innocence

From STEVEN GUTKIN in BOGOTA

PABLO Escobar, aged 41, the jailed cocaine boss, describes himself as a human rights activist and blames Colombia's police chiefs for terrorist attacks attributed to his Medellin drug cartel.

"I only consider myself a fighter. I have never acted against my conscience," he says in a written response to 30 questions submitted by reporters. Escobar turned himself in to Colombian authorities in June and is being held in makeshift jail in his home town of Envigado. In five typewritten pages bearing his signature and fingerprint, the leader of the Medellin cocaine cartel offers rare glimpses of his life and view of the world. Despite American aid for his government's anti-drug campaign, Escobar claims that he admires Americans.

He says he does not "smoke, drink liquor or consume drugs". He would like to study journalism in jail in order to "write a column for an important newspaper or magazine".

Escobar was listed by Forbes magazine in the late 1980s as one of the world's richest men. At one time he financed roads, stadiums, street lights, soccer fields and houses for the poor of Medellin. "I know there are a lot of people who love me and ... who pray for me," he writes.

Escobar said the killings attributed to him over the years were in fact committed by "high police officials and press-conference generals". Authorities blame him for the killings of three presidential candidates, a justice minister, an attorney-general, a newspaper publisher and hundreds of others, including 10 per cent of the Medellin police force. (AP)

Mexican voters weigh up Salinas reform package

From REUTERS in MEXICO CITY

MEXICANS voted yesterday in mid-term elections seen as a referendum on the economic reforms of President Salinas de Gortari and a test of whether he can match economic transformation with deep political change.

President Salinas has won widespread praise for the economic reforms that have slashed inflation, shored up public finances, and spurred economic growth during the first half of the year. His policies have also lured foreign investment that boosted Mexico's capital accounts surplus to \$8.72 billion (£5.25 billion). However, he has also been criticised at home and

abroad for failing to add serious democratic reform to his economic project, dubbed "Salinasstroika" by the Mexican press.

Señor Salinas came to the presidency through disputed elections in 1988 in which the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) received its lowest vote ever. In the 62 years since the PRI was formed, it has been accused of rigging elections to maintain its stranglehold on power, and Señor Salinas has been dogged by accusations that his government is the result of yesterday's elections. Half of the 64-seat Senate and the entire Congress

were at stake, and polls showed the party again routing its left and right-wing opponents. Electoral reforms, including new voters' rolls and identification cards, transparent ballot boxes, and a new federal electoral institute, were approved by Congress last year to ensure the poll - the first national one since Señor Salinas took office - will be free and fair. Voters remain sceptical, and analysts said this would be reflected in much absenteeism.

For Salinas appears to have a high approval rating as to his economic policies, including a high-profile programme to reduce poverty.

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Jesuit exposes island atrocities

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS in BATTICALOA

CONSIDERING the carnage that Batticaloa has endured, the Rotary Club's sign on the main road into the Sri Lankan town is rather superfluous: "Drive carefully. Thank you." There is an army or police checkpoint about every 100 yards, so it is quicker to walk.

Father Harry Miller, an American Jesuit priest, is to be found at St Michael's. One of his fellow priests vanished last year, presumed killed. The work is dangerous as well as sickening. Last year Father Miller discovered piles of bodies burning on a pyre made from old tyres. All were alleged to be victims of army atrocities.

He came to Batticaloa in 1948. Occasionally he goes back to New Orleans, but he intends to see out his life in Sri Lanka. His life's mission has been to work with Tamils, a good number of whom are Christians, al-

though most are Hindus. That puts him and his ilk right in the middle of Sri Lanka's ethnic war.

It is approaching zero hour, six o'clock, when dusk starts to fall and people are hurrying home to be off the streets by dark. Father Miller is just back from a Rotary Club meeting. It was poorly attended yet again. Many professional people have left town, leaving only 20 to keep the club alive.

The old priest, striding up the stairs to his office in the attic, is anxious to talk about atrocities. He says that hundreds of men vanished in the space of three or four months last year, and he wants the army to confess to mass slaughter.

Burrowing into a rusty filing cabinet, he produces long lists of missing men, most of them young, some of them boys, all Tamils. They vanished in last summer's army offensive, during which towns and cities

of the Eastern Province, then controlled by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, were recaptured.

There are Methodists and Quakers in Batticaloa, too. Like the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Quakers have unhindered access to Tiger-controlled areas in the countryside. This way, messages can be relayed between the combatants. Both sides frequently want to know about missing individuals. The American and the Englishman at the Quaker office refused to talk about their work, and the Red Cross was equally reticent. Both organisations regard their position as acutely, even dangerously, sensitive.

Father Miller, worried by the encroaching night, hurries through his story. He says 2,000 to 2,500 out of 2,717 people reported missing are presumed to have died in army custody. He says he knows the site of one

mass grave, because a man who had been stabbed in the chest and back lived to tell the story, despite being bulldozed beneath the dirt with 180-odd corpses.

But news from the Eastern Province is not entirely bleak. A presidential commission is investigating one of the alleged massacres, the first time the government has taken such a step, and human rights workers say the worst of the atrocities have stopped.

The priest comments: "This commission is highly significant. We won't allow it to be a whitewash. We persuaded 50 people to testify before it, even though they were afraid of reprisals. The situation here has definitely improved. People were going missing before. Now it is just one here and there. But those who are guilty of last year's mass murders must be brought to book."

Gorbachev returns to cabinet revolt over union treaty

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachev returns to Moscow from his Crimean holiday today to face a double emergency in his administration over the new union treaty and the latest upsurge of ethnic violence in the Transcaucasus.

With only hours remaining before the first three republics sign the treaty, the Soviet cabinet has demanded clarification — and revision — of

several of its most crucial provisions. The revisions would leave food and energy supplies and financial control firmly in central hands.

The heads of two key republics, Russia and Kazakhstan, meanwhile challenged the president's will and ability to stop the fighting in the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

In a barbed appeal to Presi-

dent Gorbachev, Boris Yeltsin and Nursultan Nazarbayev, offered to mediate in the dispute between Armenia and Azerbaijan. "If Gorbachev cannot find the strength to do so himself", fighting has raged in and around Nagorno-Karabakh for more than two years, but reached new heights last week when Armenian fighters captured 40 Soviet interior ministry troops and demanded freedom for captured Armenians in exchange.

The main challenge to Mr Gorbachev came none the less from the cabinet which, according to Tass, has formulated a "package of proposals" to become an inseparable part of the union treaty. The cabinet, chaired in Mr Gorbachev's absence by Valentin Pavlov, the prime minister, also complained that the treaty failed to remove the potential for conflict between central and republic laws.

Its criticism of the treaty followed a week of complaints from heads of individual state sectors who warned that the Soviet Union faced ruin if the treaty were adopted in its present form. They included the head of the state bank, the head of the state tax inspectorate, and the minister of the oil industry, who accused the prime minister of standing idly by while the country's formerly lucrative oil and gas sector went to ruin. Although wrapped in references to the "market economy", the last-minute complaints appeared to reflect fears that the treaty will bring the demise of the powerful central ministries.

This is what many republic leaders, including Mr Yeltsin and Mr Nazarbayev, have demanded from the treaty and they will not take kindly to suggestions that it should be revised. At a press conference with Mr Nazarbayev in Alma Ata, the Kazakh capital, at the weekend, Mr Yeltsin was adamant: "If we sign the treaty, but Pavlov's cabinet remains — archaic like its chairman and with 72 ministries — then they will continue to crush us."

Georgian seceding: Zviad Gamsakhurdia, the president of the independence-minded republic of Georgia, sacked his prime minister, Tengiz Sigua, and two other senior officials, local journalists said. (Reuters)

Leningrad finds its true identity

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT IN LENINGRAD

PETER the Great may have knocked a window through to Europe when he built St Petersburg, but he forgot the door.

"We have always had to look at Europe through our little pane of glass," one of the growing ranks of those who would like to see the Soviet Union more Westernised said recently. "We can't walk through to them, and they can't walk through to us. We're still outsiders."

If such malcontents had been to Leningrad recently, they might have changed their tune. They might even have found themselves turning the door's finely wrought 18th-century handle. For, quite suddenly, the city of Peter the Great feels like the outward-looking metropolis and great Nordic port it once was. In place of last year's downcast masses and urban dereliction, there are confident smiles and purposeful buildings.

In the long twilight evenings of late summer, people promenade along Nevsky Prospekt to the river and back, talking and laughing. Adolescents stroll with their guitars in the precincts of what is again Kazan cathedral and used to be the museum of atheism. Artists and traders surround the square by the Russian Museum, hawking the now-familiar mixture of irreverent cartoons, stolen icons, painted samovars and "Gorbys-dolls".

Back on Nevsky, the touches of Vienna or Prague, Berlin or, dare one venture, old St Petersburg, look daily

more established. The branches of French cosmetics firms, German food and beer, Austrian-style cafes and Russian art salons look more at home here than in Moscow. Each tasteful sign, each shopfront remodelled in the old style harks back to something real in this city's past, not to new pretensions.

Posters and hoardings testify to the Turks and Chinese, Finns and Germans who are staking an interest in the city's future. The whiff of salt air from the river is a reminder of the world across the sea.

Even last autumn, Nevsky and all Leningrad looked condemned. Its buildings were dingy and neglected. Shops displayed fictitious goods, emptiness and surliness prevailed.

There is still emptiness and surliness in the shops of Leningrad. There are long queues for milk and petrol. Basics are still rationed. Meat is still unwrapped, hacked from a carcass and sold in unrecognisable chunks. In the city's high-rise suburbs there is grime and neglect. The buses are a long time coming, rubbish oozes from the bins and everyone wants a bigger flat.

But they are selling melons and tomatoes at the Metro stations, and this summer no one is blocking the streets demanding cigarettes. In its heart of hearts, Leningrad is already again St Petersburg. Perhaps, beneath all the bolshevik accretions, it always was.

Rome ruse puts Albanians on flights back to Tirana

By PAUL BOMPARD IN ROME AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

MORE than 2,000 Albanian refugees who thought that they were going to be allowed to stay in Italy have been tricked into boarding aircraft which took them straight back to Tirana.

By yesterday afternoon, the massive airlift of the remaining 2,500 Albanians was almost completed. Hundreds of police were involved and dozens of civilian and military aircraft used. A total of 49 planes took off from Naples, Rome, Milan, Genoa, Pisa, Turin, Venice and Bologna to fly the refugees to Albania.

One policeman said that when the Albanians recognised their own coastline there were cries of anger, but there was no violence. The Italian government said that

the step was taken in agreement with the Albanian authorities, who gave assurances that none of the refugees, including 700 army deserters, would be punished.

The play used in Bari helped to defuse the situation and allowed the authorities to split the Albanians into smaller groups and take them to various parts of northern Italy. The Albanians in Bari had been holding out in two groups of more than 1,000, refusing to board ferries back to Albania. Those airlifted over the weekend were the last of about 20,000 Albanians who had crossed the Adriatic to Italy earlier this month.

Early on Saturday morning, police woke up the Albanians and took them to various

airports. They were told that they were being taken to Rome for processing. Each Albanian had one Italian policeman as escort. But instead of flying south, the aircraft turned east towards Albania.

The Italian government is to hold further talks with the Tirana authorities about economic aid in the next few days.

The great majority of the would-be Albanian refugees were repatriated by ferry from Bari early last week, but after appalling scenes of violence as many fought to resist deportation, the authorities granted a reprieve to more than 2,000 people, saying their applications to stay would be examined case by case.

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Germans work on formula to release convicted brothers

By IAN MURRAY IN BONN AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE German justice ministry is studying how the two Hamadi brothers could be released from their jail sentences for terrorism in exchange for the two German aid workers who are being held as hostages in Lebanon.

Iranian sources have made it clear that the surest way of ensuring the freedom of the two German hostages would be to free the Hamadis, whatever deal is negotiated for other prisoners. The foreign ministry here has said the sentences cannot be negotiated since they were imposed by an independent judiciary.

However, according to *Der Spiegel*, officials have now drawn attention to article 456a of the criminal code, which foresees the release of convicted prisoners, provided they are then expelled from the country. The magazine says that this would be legally easier to arrange than a presidential pardon for the two, since pardons are only possible when most of a prison sentence has been served.

This condition is not yet met. Abbas Hamadi was sentenced to 13 years in 1988 for kidnapping and coercing the West German government. He has published a letter

asking for the release of the German hostages and applied for a presidential pardon.

His younger brother, Muhammad, was given a life sentence in 1989 for murder and kidnapping. With remission for good behaviour, Abbas could be freed in four years, but Muhammad would serve at least another ten.

There is, however, a precedent for the early release of a prisoner who is then expelled. In 1983, a Libyan serving a life sentence for killing a Libyan diplomat was sent home in exchange for four Germans imprisoned for long sentences in Libya for a variety of offences.

At the same time, another two Libyans, on trial for torture charges, were released and expelled in exchange for eight other Germans.

Writing in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine*, Karsten Voigt, the foreign affairs spokesman of the opposition Social Democrats, insisted that the brothers should not be released early. Every surrender of the principles to pursue and punish terrorists and hostage-takers like other criminals would only save hostages in the short term, but in the long term would lead to more

hostages being taken, he said. In Edinburgh, relatives of the Lockerbie bomb victims yesterday pleaded for convicted Middle East terrorists to be kept behind bars.

The plea was issued by Dr Jim Swire, spokesman for the British relatives of those who died when terrorists brought down the Boeing 747 on December 21, 1988, killing 270 passengers, crew and residents of the Scottish town. Dr Swire, whose daughter Flora was among the victims, made his plea in Edinburgh where a requiem for Lockerbie to commemorate the disaster opened as part of the Edinburgh Festival.

Lockerbie relatives shared in the "genuine joy" at the release of hostages, he said. "No one wants to see the hostages released more than us. But there are a number of persons in custody in the West who have been properly tried and convicted of terrorist acts, many of which resulted in death for innocent victims."



Wife's vigil: Tami Arad, with daughter Yuval, waiting in Tel Aviv yesterday for news of Ron, her Israeli airman husband lost in Lebanon and a key to a hostage swap

Israel dampens hopes of early hostage barter

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE Israeli hostage negotiator, Uri Lubrani, said on television here yesterday that it was a "fallacy" to think that the release of Western hostages held in Lebanon could be arranged quickly.

Mr Lubrani, who flew to Geneva last week to inform Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations secretary general, of the Israeli position on the hostage problem, told ITN that an arrangement for their release could not be "created overnight". He said: "We know the complexity of the problem, we know the people with whom we have to deal and with whom the secretary general will have to deal." For the Israelis, he emphasised, "the only thing to happen is to get signs of life from our prisoners of war."

Mr Lubrani spoke as the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, said he thought it might take until the end of the year to get all the remaining hostages out. Dr Carey also proclaimed that the Church of England was still playing an active role in

attempts to free the hostages. Interviewed on BBC Radio 4's Sunday programme, he said: "We are keeping in the background, but I can tell you that we are definitely there."

Dr Carey has named a new chief of hostage negotiations, Middle East expert Francis Wits. He replaced public affairs secretary John Lytle, who died earlier this year.

In Jerusalem yesterday, defence ministry officials, quoted by Voice of Israel radio, said Israel would not free any of the 400 Arabs it holds. The radio said Israel also would not allow the Red Cross to visit a Shia Muslim cleric until it received information on the seven Israeli soldiers missing in Lebanon since 1982.

Sheikh Muhammad Husain Fadallah, the spiritual mentor of the Shia Hezbollah group, said yesterday in an interview with BBC radio: "If all parties respond positively to the quiet diplomacy of the UN secretary general, they will achieve a happy end to this issue."

Baghdad counts cost of sanctions

From JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

IN BAGHDAD'S first official estimate of the economic pressure it withstood to maintain the occupation of Kuwait, it said yesterday that United Nations sanctions had cost it \$17 billion (£10 billion) in the five and a half months before the Gulf war.

Samal Majid Faraj, the Iraqi planning minister, said lost oil production from the invasion on August 2, 1990, until the allied offensive began on January 17 accounted for \$10 billion. In remarks reported by the Iraqi news agency, he estimated losses caused by a "total or partial halt in other sectors" at \$4 billion.

Iraq also lost \$948 million as a result of increased production costs and \$710 million because of delays to development projects, he said. The loss of earnings from trade and services amounted to a further \$1.32 billion.

The comments came as Iraq was preparing to resume oil sales for the first time since sanctions were imposed.

Anderson sister at service

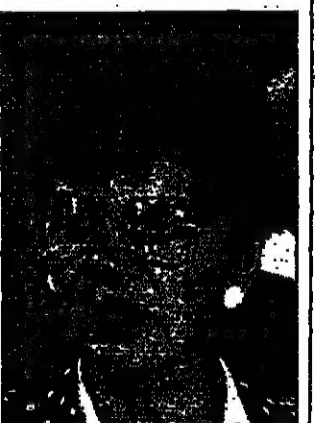
By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PEGGY SAY, the sister of Terry Anderson, the American hostage, went to the morning service yesterday at the journalists' church, St Bride's, in London.

John McCarthy spent the last year of his captivity with Mr Anderson. After the service, Mrs Say said: "I hope to see him in the next couple of days but I don't want to rush him." She said that she wanted to see the church where people had remembered John. "Today's service was a good experience in all the confusion," she said.

Mr McCarthy remained in hiding yesterday as he learnt to adjust to being out of the protective care of the RAF and took yet another step towards leading a normal life.

Karen Talbot, from the Friends of John McCarthy, the group which campaigned for his release, said: "John is just having a peaceful and quiet time. He has gone away to continue the process begun at RAF Lyneham."



Hymn of hope: Say in the St Bride's choir yesterday

Three die in Sidon rampage

Sidon - A gunman went berserk in this southern Lebanese port yesterday, hurling grenades and dynamite sticks at random. Police said three people died and eight were wounded before the gunman was killed by Lebanese troops.

A police spokesman said the killer, a member of a disarmed left-wing militia which controlled Sidon during the civil war, climbed on to a rooftop in the Kanaya suburb to stage his evening attack. "He had a bagful of grenades and dynamite sticks which he threw at pedestrians below him," the spokesman said.

The dead included two members of the left-wing Nasrallah militia and a woman passer-by. Troops at a nearby checkpoint fired their machineguns and killed the man. It could not be determined what made the gunman, who used the nom de guerre of Castro, run amok. (AP)

Prisoners freed

Algiers - The Algerian government has begun to release 329 Islamic fundamentalist prisoners, but their leaders and almost 800 others must remain in jail. Sidi Ahmed Ghazali, the prime minister, said the goodwill gesture before talks with the opposition would not apply to prisoners facing trial. (AFP)

Arafat 'must go'

Jerusalem - A splinter group of the Palestine Liberation Organisation has called for Yasser Arafat, the PLO's chairman, to be sacked. The January 14 Corrective Movement accuses Mr Arafat of bringing "devastation" to the Palestinians. (AP)

Major to lobby for rights link with aid

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN is to urge the Commonwealth to follow its policy of denying aid to Third World countries that violate human rights and deny democracy to their citizens.

John Major is to call for support from fellow Commonwealth heads of government, when they meet in Harare in October, for his new policy of aid to good government. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, has already urged the European Community to threaten dictators with an immediate cut-off in EC development funds, which now amount to about \$2.5 billion (£1.5 billion).

The policy was outlined yesterday by Lynda Chalker, the overseas development minister, who said taxpayers resented having their money spent on "brutish and self-serving regimes". In a *Sunday Times* article, she dismissed as "claptrap" accusations that Western criticism of totalitarian regimes in the Third World amounted to neo-colonialism. "Errant regimes can no longer cloak their authoritarian tendencies in marxist jargon, or look to a super-

power to bail them out." Britain has already halted aid to Sudan, Somalia and Burma because of their poor human rights record. At the same time, it has pledged more grants for countries striving to uphold and improve human and civil rights, and in June announced an extra £50 million for such projects as supporting local government structures in Zambia, civil service reforms in Ghana, and public administration training in India.

The policy of tying aid to human rights has been attacked by some developing countries. Critics call it a cloak to cover cuts in aid.

But Mr Major is likely to find broad support in Harare. With the ending of the struggle to abolish apartheid, the Commonwealth is searching for a new moral role that can underpin its authority, and Chief Emeka Anyanwu, its Nigerian secretary-general, is eager to promote the group's role in upholding human rights among its members and in other countries.

Leading article, page 13



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PROMS: INTERVIEW

Speaking softly, carrying a baton

Claudio Abbado, the former conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra who moved on to the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonics, is in Britain for two Proms. Richard Morrison profiles a music master

Compared with Chicago, Berlin or Vienna, London has this to be said for it: we see a lot of good conductors on their way up. Karajan and Muti, for instance, both made wonderful music with the Philharmonia in the 1950s and 1970s respectively. But when the maestro develops the muscle to demand the best — top fees, maximum rehearsal time, absolute orchestral perfection — London becomes less appealing. This is the town where cream rises, then disappears.

So it was with Claudio Abbado. Seeing him conduct twice at the Proms within a week will inevitably induce nostalgia: Abbado's period with the London Symphony Orchestra was a glorious adventure. He was 44 and known chiefly as music director of La Scala, Milan when, in 1977, the LSO invited him to take charge in the wake of the bloodletting (nasty even by LSO standards) that had led to André Previn's departure.

Abbado was a revelation. He brought continental sophistication and glamorous engagements at top European festivals. He led the LSO into its new Baroque home, bravely swallowed his disappointment at its acoustics, and — with the 1985 "Mahler, Vienna and the 20th Century" festival — established the thematic programming that has dominated London's concert life ever since. And he revealed a brilliant ear for sonority: the LSO suddenly began playing Debussy and Stravinsky like craftsmen reborn.

More than that, the players revered him. Abbado was private but not aloof, Italian but not temperamental, cultured yet somehow attuned to the Dun Kirk spirit of the British orchestras. At the Edinburgh Festival one year he led a football team against the LSO (Domingo played in midfield) and won 4-3. He bought the LSO table tennis equipment for its rehearsal hall, and promptly beat all comers.

Nothing went wrong with the relationship. It was simply the London Effect that drew Abbado away. The writing was on the wall as early as 1983, when Deutsche Grammophon offered Abbado the chance to record all Beethoven's symphonies. Fine, except that the

orchestra selected was the Vienna Philharmonic, not the LSO.

The break with London came in 1986. Abbado was, as expected, confirmed as music director of the Vienna State Opera and named *Generalmusikdirektor* of the city of Vienna. In Vienna he embarked on a series of remarkable operatic re-evaluations that attested to his musical curiosity: there was Mussorgsky's *Khovanshchina*, and Schubert's almost unknown *Fledermaus*. Craftily, Abbado ensured that each rediscovery was tied to a DG recording, even the coffers of the Vienna State Opera are not bottomless.

At the same time he founded the "Wien Modern" festival, counterbalancing the city's stultifying conservatism with an annual dose of contemporary music. The Vi-

'Abbado is undisputed king of the two great musical capitals of Europe'

enna Philharmonic, most snobbish of all orchestras, took to Abbado as firmly as the LSO had. It seemed as if Vienna and Abbado was a marriage made in heaven.

The most remarkable chapter, however, was still to be written. After Karajan died, the Berlin Philharmonic initially inclined to the view that, after decades of despotism, it was rather pleasant to have no principal conductor at all. Practicality won the day, however. In the summer of 1989 a huge lobbying process began. Men in suits from New York and Tokyo courted the Berliners as assiduously as Renaissance ambassadors arranging marriages between dual dynasties. Maelzel, Levine, Muti, Barenboim, Mehta: all had agents and record companies wheeling and dealing on their behalf.

"To its credit," the Berlin Philharmonic "disengaged itself from this unwelcome scramble, and constructed a shortlist comprising the two conductors — Abbado and

Bernard Haitink — who had not been lobbying furiously. In the end, Abbado took the vote and accepted the Berlin job, while retaining his Viennese responsibilities. Both men subsequently made revealingly similar remarks. "For me," Abbado said, "it is very important that the Berliners made their choice democratically and without interference from the record industry." And Haitink echoed that: "I felt admiration that the Berliners had made an excellent musical choice; that they had not considered 'candidates' who might be called a 'business choice'."

So Abbado is now undisputed king of the two great musical capitals of Europe. He is much too canny to get drawn into comparisons ("such different animals, the Berlin and Vienna orchestras, such contrasting ways..."). And without appearing even to play the game of musical politics, he also has two powerful record companies, Sony and DG, vying for his services. He must be the world's top-earning conductor.

In fact, at 58 he wields more musical power than anyone ever, except perhaps Karajan in his heyday. And that is bizarre, because Abbado's personality could not be more different from Karajan's. He abhors dictatorial tactics; will never shout at players; indeed, will not speak much at all if he can convey what he wants with his hands and eyes.

This repugnance at any display of power might be traced to an incident in Abbado's childhood: his mother was imprisoned by the Nazis for harbouring a Jewish child. Equally revealingly, though, he declares his musical hero to be Pärtvanger ("those long, beautiful phrases on his recordings, yet always each individual note is clear") and claims to abhor Toscanini ("he was horrible to the orchestra. All that shouting"). But mild-mannered or not, Abbado has a stubborn perfectionism; his rehearsals can get very static if the sound in his imagination is not precisely matched by reality.

What does Abbado's pre-eminence tell us about the classical music business in the 1990s? Most encouragingly, it signals that a conductor does not have to sacrifice ideals to reach goals. The

cynics have been, at least temporarily, confounded. Abbado no longer organises concerts for factory workers, as he did at La Scala, but his idealism remains remarkably uncompromised.

That is neatly symbolised by his two Proms concerts: one is with the Berlin Philharmonic; the other with a youth orchestra, the Gustav Mahler Jugendorchester, which he co-founded to give eastern European children the same opportunities as their western contemporaries have had with his other youth project, the European Community Youth Orchestra.

What, though, of the quality of his interpretations? Here, there is room for contention. Those who maintain that modern music-making — primarily geared to producing perfect compact discs — has renounced the bite of controversy

and character, may find little in Abbado's performances to displease them. His readings are superbly cultured, certainly, for Abbado conducts nothing without knowing everything about a composer. And on a good day his refusal to insert his own personality between the notes and the listener, or to sensationalise the music, can produce stunning clarity. But on a bad day, Abbado can sound pedantic and impersonal.

That was dramatically emphasised at the Proms four years ago. The Vienna Philharmonic appeared, with Bernstein conducting Mahler's Fifth Symphony on the first night and Abbado conducting Beethoven's Ninth on the second. Bernstein's interpretation was, well, Bernstein at his most compulsively neurotic: a performance that nobody present will ever forget. The next evening was bound to be an anti-climax; but even allowing

for that, Abbado's cool presentation seemed emotionally pallid. Disappointment clouded the night.

Yet even this story increases one's admiration of Abbado. After all, which other conductor would even agree to follow Bernstein in such circumstances? Now Abbado has an even harder act to follow in Berlin. His rivals and their various acolytes, consumed with jealousy, will seize on every recording, every concert, for signs of decline in the standards of that great orchestra. Somehow, I think they will be disappointed. Given reasonable health, Abbado should tower over the European music scene for the next 20 years.

● Claudio Abbado conducts the Gustav Mahler Jugendorchester at the Proms tomorrow (7.30pm), and the Berlin Philharmonic next Monday (8pm); both concerts are at the Albert Hall (071-823 9998).

PROMS: REVIEW

Ghost buster

So popular was Dvořák's *Stabat Mater* when it was first heard in the Albert Hall by the oratorio-hungry English in 1883, that the composer was commissioned to write a new large-scale work for the Birmingham Festival. The result was, according to the *Illustrated London News*, a dramatic cantata "full of ghastly horror" called *The Spectre's Bride*. On Friday night, a Proms audience proved no less receptive to its chill and charm.

The tale is the northern European archetype of dead lover coming to claim fair maiden after years of absence. This young woman, realising that the last stop on their nightmare journey is the graveyard, sidetracks her gullible ghost, takes refuge in a charnel-house, struggles with corpses within and demons without and is saved by her faith.

Judith Howarth, warming to both the lunar beauty and Slav inflections of the two prayers to the Virgin, sang them stunningly. The shifting rhythms of the ballad's narrative pacing and its three-fold patterns of repetition were inspiring to both composer and performers. In a trinity of confrontations, the length of the Spectre's strides increases threefold at each stage of the journey; he snatches away prayerbook, rosary and cross; he tap, tap, taps at the window and knock, knock, knocks at the door. The stages of the night journey are lit by the most subtle scoring: tension mounts by means of rhythmic evolution and stacking harmonic sequences.

The USSR Ministry of Culture Chamber Choir, under Gennadi Rozhdestvensky, shadowed and reinforced Peter Mikuláš's stentorian narration with obvious delight. David Kuebler, as the Spectre, followed every stage of his spooky seduction: bending his tenor warmly and persuasively, and sniping in increasingly impatient rhythms. It was only a pity that no record company was on hand.

HILARY FINCH

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EDINBURGH FESTIVAL: EXHIBITION

Fish tanks for the memories

Andrew Gibbon

Williams on a photographic show of unusual narrative power

Photograph an empty fish tank and you can be guaranteed a visual yawn. But think of the fish tank as a stage set, arrange a tableau of kitsch Fifties' ornaments underwater within it, then photograph this aquatic mini-theatre on the seashore, and the image might well amount to something poetic.

Essentially, this is the method devised by New York photographer Arthur Tress, whose extensive series of still-life colour photographs, the surreal-sounding "Fish Tank Sonata", is the most intriguing photographic contribution to this year's Edinburgh International Festival. Tress is better known on this side of the Atlantic for his icy erotic studies of the male nude. Here, however, his material is more toy-town than adult bookstall. The show is eminently suitable for children, even though a depth of serious intent lurks beneath the bright colours and whimsy.

Tress chanced upon the theme for his Fish Tank project while he was spending some time in the Hudson River town of Catskill a few years ago. Catskill, a leading home of the 19th century painter Thomas Cole, a leading light of the Hudson River school, Cole's studio is now a museum, and it was there that Tress discovered a series of prints called "The Voyage of Life". These sentimental pictures chart the four ages of a child, beginning with a child setting out on the Stream of Life and ending with the old man glimpsing immortality.

His imagination fired by Cole's pictures, Tress began contemplating a reworking of the scene in photographic form. Back at his rented cottage he noticed a fisherman in a rowing boat and this gave him the idea of using the fisherman character as the equivalent of Cole's hero. He went on to expand this idea by imagining entire scenarios



Scenarios populated by easily collectable 'flea-market trash': one of Arthur Tress's photographs from *Fish Tank Sonata*, at the Portfolio Gallery

populated by similar, easily collectable "flea-market trash" like the fisherman. But there was a problem: how was he to make the gaudy miniature material register in a landscape setting without the effect becoming trivial or ludicrous? He hit upon the idea of using an aquarium to contain his narratives, and the concept of the "Fish Tank Sonata" was born.

Tress is a natural storyteller so it is not surprising that he began by writing an adventure for his newly discovered, diminutive hero. It is a kind of odyssey — a voyage of self-discovery in which the fisherman (guided by a bright red, talking snapper fish) discovers religion and the arts. As a result of his adventures he becomes more respectful of the environment and, consequently more successful. Each photograph is a kind of visual parable — an instalment in the fisherman's education — and Tress emphasises the im-

portance of his narrative by appending specially composed rhyming quatrains which commentate on the iconography and point up the meaning of each photograph.

Notwithstanding this complex literary programme however, it is the images themselves, the ingenious way they are contrived and their variety, that make Tress's photographs fascinating. In one of the most memorable, a death mask of Napoleon floats alongside an elaborate Paris-style street lamp, a pair of opera glasses and a shattered Sevres vase. Behind this Napoleonic tank rises up a mist-shrouded rocky hillside.

Not all of the photographs are so idyllic in flavour. In one which comments on the urban rat race, a mannequin of a briefcase-carrying office worker stumbles through debris of electrical circuits and knotted wire. In this photo-

graph, shiny office buildings form the backdrop.

Just how seriously one is meant to take Arthur Tress's eccentric photographic reveries is occasionally difficult to judge. Sometimes the content is contradicted by the tone: in one photograph, for example, a model of the sinking Titanic implies a sombre lesson for the fisherman, while the tone of the picture is bright and frivolous. It is at times like these that Tress's Pop Art mentality — a tongue-in-cheek attitude towards the past — overrides the nostalgic impulse which gives his photographs their real bite. For Tress, however, the potential for photographic narratives is limitless. He is forging ahead with "Requiem for a Paper Weight".

● Fish Tank Sonata, Portfolio Gallery, 43 Candlemaker Row, Edinburgh (031-220 1911). Mon-Sat 11am-5.30pm, until September 7.

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Sarajevo awaits a gunshot

Bosnia senses war, says Anne McElvay

For a man whose shots started the first world war, Gavril Princip is remarkably popular in Yugoslavia. His mournful, walrus features stare out of postcards, and schoolbooks contain admiring accounts of his devotion to the Young Bosnia movement, in whose name he gunned down Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, on a state visit to Sarajevo. A cosy museum stands on the street corner where the 17-year-old student fired the bullet, and his pistol, bombs, and the telegram conveying Austria's declaration of war on Serbia are lovingly displayed inside. The general impression is that Sarajevo considers the unleashing of hostilities a fit subject for civic pride.

Princip's good name stems from the fact that the defeat of Germany and Austria in the ensuing war gave birth to Yugoslavia. His confession indicated that he was as much motivated by a desire to prove his bravery (he had been rejected by the Serbian army as too weak) as by the good of Bosnia, but Yugoslavs now have more than one reason for disavowing the reputation of the faded hero.

The supporters of keeping Bosnia-Herzegovina, the republic that lies between Serbia and Croatia, whole and independent hark back to the autonomy sought by the Young Bosnians. The Serb supporters of carving up the republic into its constituent Muslim, Serb and Croat parts — thus giving generously to the territorial cause of Greater Serbia — recall that Princip was a Serb opposed to dominance by Vienna and Budapest, not to dominance by Belgrade.

Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, is once again bracing itself for the shot which would plunge it into a civil war. A political initiative, rather than a salvo, may spark the fighting, for the republic, the centre of the nation's ethnic patchwork, is the key to the future shape of Yugoslavia. Its people know that their lives are to be the human currency of any deal between republics.

Bosnia's Muslim leader, Alija Izetbegovic, is unmoved by the prospect of this people, who make up 44 per cent of Bosnia's population, being used as a human barricade to keep warring Croats and Serbs apart, and he has said that they will take up arms against any such plan. The Muslims fear the hearty territorial appetite of the Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic and the readiness of Croats to do a deal with him, leaving them stranded. They were originally Christian heretics who fled to the region's mountains to avoid both Rome and the Orthodox church, converting to Islam for Ottoman protection. The Orthodox Serbs have not forgiven them. Few Muslims trust an enlarged Serbia to leave them alone, once they are prized away from the protection of Bosnia.

The region's long history of tolerance appears to be nearing its end. Bosnia's Muslim leaders are being driven to seek Arab support and are drifting towards fundamentalism. In the labyrinth of Sarajevo's souk, you can again glimpse veiled women. The authority of the mullahs is growing, the mosques are full. So, for that matter, are the Orthodox and Catholic churches: faced with the political pressure to align themselves, formerly secular Bosnians are running for religious cover.

The nascent peace movement based in Sarajevo has found strong support in a city fearful of its potential for self-destruction. Its motto, "One Minute to Twelve", heralds a desperate race against the spectre of Gavril Princip, once again brandishing the starting pistol of war.

Miscarriages of justice will not be rectified until there is a new system of appeal, writes Ludovic Kennedy

Rarely seen to be undone



Another scandal? The case of Bentley, hanged in 1953, is to be reviewed

Sir Daniel Brabin found that while Evans was unlikely to have murdered his daughter, on which he had been convicted, he probably had murdered his wife, on which charge he had never been tried; that is, if there had been a miscarriage, it was only on a technicality.

In the Confit case Sir Henry Fisher found little to disturb the verdict of arson and murder against the three boys until some years later the attorney-general found himself obliged to tell the House of Commons that they had not been involved at all. Lewis Hawes, QC, found nothing wrong with James Hammett's conviction and execution in 1962, although there was a mass of evidence to show otherwise. After four years of thinking about it, Lord Hunter refused to give the innocent Patrick Meehan a clean bill of health for his conviction of murder, suggesting in his report that Meehan may have been involved in some way (Meehan, like the dead Timothy

Evans, was granted what used to be quaintly called "a free pardon"). And despite the convincing evidence in the appeal court of the two in the Luton murder case and of the Guildford four in their first appeal, Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Roskill respectively managed to turn blind eyes.

And so we come to the contemptuous (and contemptible) dismissal by Lord Lane of the 1988 appeal of the Birmingham six and to the grudging allowing of the Maguire's appeal by Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and his colleagues with all its rubbish about a contaminated towel — another perfectly tailored exercise in damage limitation. No wonder that Michael Mansfield, QC, has

gone on record as saying that judges are notoriously unreliable when it comes to interpreting the facts. And now we have the 39-year-old case of Derek Bentley, hanged for murdering a policeman, sent for review by the home secretary last week.

How then are we to persuade the appeal court and those conducting enquiries into alleged miscarriages of justice to deliver judgments not grossly at variance with commonsense interpretation of the facts? Here is my proposal, which I will submit to the Runciman Commission.

Our system of criminal justice is based, as we are frequently told, on the lay element. "It is my duty," judges tell juries when they sum up, "to explain to you the

law, and it is your duty to reach a verdict according to the facts." (This of course does not prevent prejudiced judges like Lord Bridge at the original Birmingham six trial from giving their views about the facts, too, invariably supporting those of the prosecution. In America they are forbidden from doing this, and one hopes the Runciman Commission will recommend the same practice here.)

The lay element, however, begins and ends at the court of first instance. Why? If it is, as people say, one of our traditional safeguards against oppression, why not extend it to the Court of Appeal? Since the judges of the appeal court have taken it on themselves to make a judgment on the facts, instead of asking themselves what verdict the trial jury might have reached had it been able to assess the old and new evidence together, there seems every reason why it should be extended. If an appeal is based only on a point of law, there

would be no need for a lay element; but if it is concerned with the interpretation of new facts compared with the old, why not have a single judge sitting with two lay assessors?

Such assessors could be drawn from a pool of, say, solicitors, historians, accountants, any professional body whose work involves the sifting and judging of evidence. They would not only be a great deal more intelligent than the average jury, but also far less prejudiced than the average judge. Their judgments would not be distorted by an atavistic belief that if a wrong has been uncovered, it is best to cover it up and pretend it never happened or to maintain the mistake was only a bagatelle. This view, supported by such as Lord Denning ("if the Birmingham six had been hanged about them"), must no longer be allowed to prevail.

The judiciary will no doubt regard such a proposal as a gross infringement of their province. But with a record such as theirs, they are hardly in a position to complain.

The author's collected writings, *Truth to Tell*, will be published by Bantam Press in October.

Game of cribbage, anybody?

Bernard Levin on an international outbreak of plagiarism

I have been simultaneously amazed and amused at the recent outcrop of plagiarism, together with immensely solemn debates on the subject, in the United States. I say the recent crop advisedly, because it is by no means the first time that spirited recycling has come to light in that lovable but somewhat odd country. The most astonishing item in the catalogue was the contribution of Mr Joe Biden, who was seeking the Democratic nomination for president. (If you want to know the difference between American and British politicians there is an exquisitely hand-carved distinction: American ones "run" for office, ours "stand".)

Presumably, Mr Biden did not trust his own oratory to carry him to victory, and decided to borrow someone else's; so far so good — he had, after all, many great writers, thinkers and speakers to choose from, including Shakespeare, Socrates, Charles James Fox, Confucius, Tolstoy and Levin, not to mention Thomas Jefferson. Talking of Jefferson (today's column, as you may have already guessed, is going to be the discursive kind), do you know the most charming compliment ever paid to that great man? President Kennedy gave a dinner for the surviving American Nobel laureates in science, medicine, literature and the promotion of peace — and in his speech said words to the effect that this must surely be the greatest concourse of genius in all fields ever brought together under the White House roof — "Except perhaps," he added, "when Thomas Jefferson dined alone."

Anyway, Mr Biden chose none of these sure-fire exemplars, but instead, in making a speech, waxed eloquent with the words of Neil Kinnock, so help me, who had just enough sense to say he was flattered and then shut up.

That will be hard to beat; but the search goes on. The most recent spat began with an academic, a Mr Maitre, who was the dean of communications, what-

ever that might be, at Boston University. He was making a commencement address, which might be thought so great labour, nor indeed the kind of speech so likely to go down to history as a model of good examination by a Sanhedrin of grammarianesque someone, though, spotted a link, and Mr Maitre's shame was revealed: he had borrowed, without permission, parts of a magazine article by a film critic, one Michael Melved.

I have nothing against film critics — very many years ago I nearly became one — and the name of this particular celluloid-scrutiner was hitherto unknown to me. It did, though, strike me as odd — almost as odd as Mr Biden's fatal choice — that poor Mr Maitre, who in turn could have chosen from among Dostoevsky, Molière, Cervantes, Aristotle, St Thomas Aquinas and Levin, should seek inspiration from such a recondite source.

Then it got worse. The *Boston Globe*, reasonably enough — after all, the affair was in its purview — recounted the sad story of the fall of Mr Maitre, but gradually the news began to circulate more widely. The *Boston Herald* correspondent of the *New York Times* therefore deemed it his duty to inform his own paper's readers of the exciting news, unfortunately, he took part in the original *Boston Globe* report, and was suspended, *sine die*, by his editor.

Then it began to get like flying saucers: a single sighting leads to half a dozen others, and before you know where you are you can't see the moon for the things. Another journalist, this one the *Washington Post*, has been sacked — no half-measures for the nation's capital — for lifting material from *The Miami Herald*. What makes this stage of the plagiarism epidemic even more weird than it was in the first place is the nature of the matter from which came the words *Herald* pilfered: it consisted of

three articles about mosquitoes. Now look: I am not much interested in mosquitoes, but I recognise that others may not share my indifference. But in the name of Johann Gutenberg how did the *Miami Herald* persuade itself that its readers were so besotted with the creature that they wanted to read about them, they wanted to read about them, they wanted to read about them, is there enough known about mosquitoes to fill so monstrous an amount of newspaper? And even if there is, would not the excitement of learning about the little fellows with the characteristic ping! wear off rather quickly?

Then it spread to books. A business instructor at Stanford University (I assume that a business instructor at Stanford would have been engaged to instruct the students in the mysteries of business, and a fine example be set them, I must say) lifted whole sections from yet another magazine article, this one about the Ford company, for a book he was writing — or, more exactly, not writing. The book

was called *Managing on the Edge* — *How the Smartest Companies Use Conflict to Stay Ahead*, and I can tell you that however they use it they certainly do not do so to save time on titles.

Sooner or later, I suppose, it had to spread to Japan, but as we all know, when the Japanese copy other countries' inventions they are not content to make replicas and leave it at that, pausing only to undercut the prices of the originals. No; they must improve on the product, and if you can think of a bigger improvement than what follows you ought to be a business instructor at Stanford. The president of Japan's biggest news agency, the Kyodo News Service, has just resigned over a case of plagiarism. It was not, of course, the Kyodo president who did the plagiarising; he was merely doing the honourable thing of taking the responsibility for the actions of his staff, but the actions in question must have a claim on the title of the greatest

act of plagiarism in history. A writer specialising in health wrote a weekly article for the *Kyodo News Service* on the subject for 51 consecutive weeks, and just as he was sitting down to the 52nd and presumably pouring a celebratory drink for completing the year, it transpired that he had stolen the lot from a series that had appeared in a leading Japanese newspaper 17 years previously.

I suppose I have committed all but one of the many malfeasances that are possible with the use of a pen. Libel, contempt of court, gross inaccuracy, character assassination, bribery, incitement to violence, *lese-majeste*, breach of parliamentary privilege, grammatical error (rare, that one), corruption of youth, *scandalum magnatum* — I wouldn't be surprised if there was a forgotten forgery or two, or at

least a doctored will; but the one such sin that I have never succumbed to is the one of literary ventriloquism, or passing off the words of others as my own.

The reason has nothing to do with my upright and unblemished character. It is only because I have so much to say on my own account, and have so many opinions, and know so many words in which to give the said opinions, whether invited to do so or not, that the very thought of a need to borrow the words or ideas of others seems to me very comical. Incidentally, did you know that the word *plagiarism* comes from a Latin word, *plagiarius*, which means a kidnapper, hence a kidnapper of others' words?

I got that straight out of the *OED*. American papers please copy.

From both sides now

NEXT month's Liberal-Democrat conference may be overshadowed by public feuding between Lord Jenkins and David Owen, conducted from the gentlemanly offices of their respective publishers. Both are venturing into print with their differing accounts of the demise of the SDP.

Jenkins's autobiography, *A Life at the Centre*, comes out on September 11, the day the Lib-Dem conference opens. It spurs Owen little blame for the collapse of the SDP, and reveals the true extent of Jenkins's disputes with the doctor. Owen is expected to be equally frank about his former partner in *Time to Declare*, which comes out a few days later.

According to an early manuscript draft of Jenkins's book, due chapter, "What went wrong?" is devoted to the demise of the SDP. Owen is attacked for a flirtation with Thatcherite policies towards the end of 1986, particularly on defence, which strained relations with Shirley Williams, the party president. Williams was not only unhappy at some of Owen's policy positions; she was also dismayed by his shrill manner.

Jenkins confirms that there was little love lost between him and Owen, though they concealed the friction in public. But the disclosure that they only lunched alone together once in 1986, the year before the general election, will surprise even some of the SDP's most observant supporters.

He also attacks Owen for his attitude to the Liberal wing of the Alliance, regarded by Owen as a shambling bunch. But he reserves most of his anger for the way the parties were merged after the 1987 general election. Jenkins accuses Owen of a high-handed approach



at meetings of the SDP's ruling committee, and pillories him for allowing the argument over detail to drag on while the SDP was withering and dying.

However, Jenkins does say: "I certainly have positive things to say about Dr Owen. But my thoughts on him in the book are much like my observations of Harold Wilson. They were neither wholly positive nor wholly negative. A bit like me, I suppose you could say."

But as everywhere these days, but rarely have they made so theatrical an entry as on Saturday night at Glyndebourne. Just as the vaults of hell were opening to engulf Don Giovanni, out of the darkness winged a large, unscripted bat to take two turns round the stunned auditorium. Was it indeed the spirit of the doomed Don, or of old Glyndebourne, in anticipation of its impending demolition and rebuilding?

Eastward look

MICHAEL HESELTINE's plans for the construction of a new city east of London begs the question: what should it be called? The environment department has officially pencilled in the name Thames Gateway, though wags in Heseltine's office feel Thames Valley has a better ring to it. Such

continental style would help us keep up with the French; and their ambitious Pas de Calais plans, they feel, planners have officially dubbed the area the East Thames Corridor, but surely *Thames Gateway* can improve on that? Suggestions on a postcard, please, and a bottle of champagne for the winner.

Up sticks

WITH the exception of Birmingham Wood's ostensible trip to Dunstons, the first travelling wood in history arrives in Scotland next month as part of a theatre set. Some 40 larches are being shipped in to create an authentic set for Communicado Theatre's world premiere of *The One Gatherer*, an adaptation of Robin Jenkins's novel, to be performed in a marquee in Dingwall.

Gordon Davidson, the designer, rejected the option of artificial trees made of papier maché, chicken wire and plaster. "They are essential to the plot, so we felt we should have the real thing. The trees have been supplied with due consideration to

the environment. "We have been given trees which are one stage on in a telegraph pole process. It means they haven't been cut down for the show," Davidson says.

Foreign exchange

AFTER more than 200 years, a dying wish of King Stanislaw of Poland may be fulfilled when part of the Dulwich picture collection goes on show in Warsaw. In 1790, the king asked Noel Dessefens, then owner of the works, to put together a collection for his new national gallery. But before the pictures could be shipped, the Polish monarchy had ceased to exist.

Now the Dulwich gallery has agreed to send over part of its collection, which includes works by Van Dyke, Rembrandt and Watteau. The scheme has the backing of Sir Robin Butler, the cabinet secretary, an enthusiast for both Dulwich, where he lives, and King Stanislaw. So keen is the mandarin that he donated his party hat to entertain leaders of industry at the Cabinet Office to raise money for the exchange.

Poetic injustice

DEVOTEES of Gerard Manley Hopkins have just discovered that the room where the poet is supposed to have died of typhoid is now a public lavatory. Members of the International Gerard Manley Hopkins Society made the unfortunate discovery when they visited Newman House, where Hopkins spent his last years as professor of Greek literature at Dublin University.

Christine Casey, curator of the house, owned by the university, says: "The room was converted in 1939. We would love to restore it, but the repainting would be too expensive." Hopkins wrote many notable poems in the room before he died (last words: "I am very happy"). Whether these included the following apposite lines history does not relate:

Gush! — flush the man, the being it, sour or sweet Brim, in a flash, full!

...and moreover MATTHEW PARRIS

Not least among the disappointed love affairs of our lives are affairs with machines. I love trains, hopelessly.

No matter that it is plain to me that the concept of the railway is obsolete; plain that from the fatal flaw at its heart — when one train stops it's the devil of a business for the one behind it to stop in time, or get round it — all the horrors of signalling, shunting, points, personnel and trade-unionism; plain that the train's fate was sealed when they invented rubber tyres, steering wheels and asphalt; that all over the world railways lose money; that subsidies grow as we tip millions into the black hole of an impractical dream; and plain, finally, that the writing is on the wall. But I do not want to look at the wall. I just go on loving trains.

Turning my face from the truth, I try to route myself by train and the train keeps letting me down. Time and again I resolve to give the railway one last chance, finding excuses for its failure as one might for a lover about whom friends warned you from the start. I never learn.

So when on Wednesday my parents, who live in the Pyrenees, said they would meet me by car at Barcelona airport, I declined: there was a perfectly good train to Vich. It would take an hour. Ten kilometres short of Vich, climbing the valley on a single track, the electric loco failed.

The first thing that happens when something goes wrong with a train is that no decision is

taken, for ages. Drivers and guards walked up and down the track, very slowly, staring at the wheels. Have you ever seen a railwayman run? After an hour the conductor passed through the carriages and told us there was a delay. By now, passengers travelling to Toulouse with onward connections for Paris, Britain and Italy were going spare. Only I and the nun beside me were relaxed and in no hurry.

After two hours a diesel loco drew up behind, detached our carriage, and leaving our own engine blocking the track towed us backward to the last station we had passed. Here a new set of railway officials waited, some blowing whistles, walking to and fro in earnest conversation. More trains kept arriving from Barcelona, piling up in the sidings, the disconsolate passengers joining us in the station yard. Some of the Italian women began to cry, as is their habit, while the Italian men tried unsuccessfully to wheedle the officials into special deals involving taxis for themselves and their companions, leaving the other passengers behind.

This continued for another hour. The nun grew tired. There being no seats she eyed a low, rubble-strewn wall. I spread out my old jacket on this for her. She blessed me, elaborately.

Now began the efficient episode. The station master, a jolly sub-Pavarotti-style man, telephoned a local coach operator and asked him to arrange a relay of buses. The delay before telephoning had been while he sought authorization for this,

quite possibly from Madrid. Within a quarter of an hour, an operation reminiscent of Dunkirk swung into action. Apparently, unimpeded by the need for authorization from Madrid, the coach operator had augmented his own fleet by subcontracting to a variety of other buses. A small flotilla of coaches and buses of every size and shape, all in their different liveries, swept into the station yard. There were green ones, orange ones and ones with blue stripes. One coach had a fleet of raincoats along the side. The whole fleet had been assembled in minutes by a handful of small businessmen, their owner-drivers, some no doubt hailed from their dinners at a minute's notice, now doubling as porters, too, to load passengers' luggage.

It was decided that local passengers, like the nun and me, would be relayed to the station above the blocked track, while international passengers (already hopelessly late) would be taken straight to the French frontier. The Italians dried their eyes and began pushing in at the front of the queues.

The nun moved from the back of the queue for our own bus and emerged at its head, blessing the intervening passengers. Boarding, she smiled at the driver, who placed her in the front seat. She blessed him, too.

Pavarotti smiled jovially at an Italian waving her arms at him. "Why complain? Now you go by coach. Coaches are better, as everyone knows," he said.

Today I return to the airport. I think I'll give the train a try.



AIDING THE OPPRESSED

The government's policy of cutting off development aid to Third World countries that deny their citizens basic democratic liberties may yet be the best Britain can do for those under despotic regimes. Britain has already urged the European Community to be more critical of the governments it aids. John Major will ask the Commonwealth to follow suit when he meets its leaders in Harare in October. Even the United Nations, long blind to the evils perpetrated within the borders of member states, recognises that human rights are the concern of the world, and that dictators cannot simply plead non-interference in their internal affairs.

Lynda Chalker, overseas development minister, spent the policy at the weekend. Taxpayers have had enough of propping up brutal dictators. Money sent to governments that are corrupt, aggressive and unaccountable is money wasted. Errant regimes can no longer cloak their authoritarian tendencies in Marxist jargon or look to a superpower to bail them out.

For a long time Western liberals refrained from criticising brutality and oppression in the Third World for fear of being branded neo-colonialists. Governments have been equally pusillanimous, afraid of losing ostensibly "friendly" Third World leaders to the more cynical Soviet bloc.

President Carter was the first to stand up against such patronising cant. His crusade for human rights caused an outcry among diplomats and lobbyists who said it might lose America friends among the military dictators of Latin America. His campaign was described as naive, provocative, unworkable and an attempt to impose American values on non-American societies. But it was right and in the long run it worked. Human rights were the beacon that

rallied Eastern Europe. No American policy-maker now dares speak admiringly of "our sons-of-bitches" as military dictators were defended during the Cold War.

Mrs Chalker may be criticised for using "good government" to mask a cut in overseas aid. But she has fought for more money for those countries making a real effort to eliminate poverty, illiteracy and disease. And she has taken the bold, and still controversial, step of making military dictators pay for their arrogance, as the cuts in aid to Burma, Somalia and Sudan show. The policy is not without hazard. The criticism of Sri Lanka's human-rights record by the former high commissioner, David Gladstone, led to his expulsion. Britain vinced at this action by a Commonwealth country but rightly warned Colombo that all development aid is under review.

The expulsion of a high commissioner can be borne lightly. More difficult is whether a cut in aid will bring greater suffering to the people who are abused by their leaders. In the short term it will. Sudan's famine is not helped by Britain's refusal to allow engineers and spare parts to repair the crippled trains that could transport grain from the overcrowded port to the interior. However much money is siphoned off by corrupt dictators, targeted and supervised aid can speed the building of the dams, roads and veterinary centres that are so necessary to a country's recovery.

The answer lies in judging the long-term balance of benefit. Belgium tolerated the excesses of President Mobutu in Zaire for many years but has now cut off aid and recalled its advisers. The move has rallied the opposition and forced concessions by President Mobutu. The West must not assist bad governments.

THE MEGASTORE MENACE

The decline of the British village shop began a century ago with the development of market towns and is continuing today. The threat comes from increased car and freezer ownership, from the growth of more sophisticated shopping in the high streets of big and small towns, the extension of traffic management and car parking, and above all from the spread of out-of-town hypermarkets and "malls". The local shop can struggle on as a part-time post office and newsagent, but can it really survive as little more than an emergency top-up service to the distant hypermarket?

Thirty years ago, England had 147,000 village shops. There are only 39,000 left. According to a report published last week by Verdict, a market research organisation, the outlook for specialist shops, such as butchers and bakers, in villages is bleak. General stores are only likely to survive if they can mop up custom from the closure of specialists and even then only by working punishing hours.

The primary responsibility for the fate of such shops lies with villagers themselves. Rural Britain is no longer poverty-stricken. The same people who lament the closure of their local shop are often those who make the ritual trip to the out-of-town Tesco, unload their ten carrier bags at home and use the village shop only for the forgotten packet of cereal.

Rural customers, according to Verdict, are twice as likely as city-dwellers to say that local shops are part of their community and understand their needs. Yet often they do not patronise such shops, any more than they patronise the school, the pub and the church whose closure they would also bitterly deplore.

Those who wish local services to stay local should use them as a first not a last resort. The villagers of Wootton Courtenay in Somerset are a fine example of community support at its most active. They have clubbed together to buy their village shop and now run it as a profitable co-operative. The residents of Little Bedwyn in Wiltshire have just done the same for their only pub. Such gestures will have little impact,

however, if planning does not respond. The most dramatic retail development of the 1980s was the rise of out-of-town shopping. In 1980, out-of-town stores took just 4.6 per cent of retail spending; by 1990, that figure had risen to 17.4 per cent. Neighbourhood shops were twice as badly hit as those in town high streets, but both suffered severely. The economies of scale that the big supermarket chains can muster have been increased still further by their expansion into huge retail developments.

Independent shops simply cannot compete. They do not have the muscle to force down suppliers' costs. In Britain now, independent grocers take just 14 per cent of grocery sales, compared with over 70 per cent in Italy and Spain, and between 30 and 50 per cent in the rest of the EC. By 1990, there were 21 per cent fewer grocery outlets in Britain than there had been in 1982.

When planners are faced with applications for hypermarkets, they should consider not just the immediate convenience of the surrounding population, but the knock-on effects on town and village shops too, as well as the spoliation of the countryside and the pollution of additional car use. Many local residents who claim to want out-of-town shopping may change their mind in ten years' time when faced with the closure of shops in their high streets or villages — by which time it will be too late.

The purpose of sensible town and country planning is to smooth out the leads and lags in such development cycles, by refusing applications for hypermarkets in rural areas and restricting them to use drive down retail rents. The British countryside is about to undergo a drastic economic change, in which an influx of daily, weekly or weekend commuters will play a crucial role. The village shop will have to change its character to meet this opportunity, in opening late and at weekends and offering goods — and services — that urban refugees want and are prepared to pay for. The same villages that complain about outsiders forcing up house prices must find in the newcomers' affluence their salvation.

NAKED TRUTH

Michel Mouillot, the mayor of Cannes, is right to order a ban on toplessness in the streets and restaurants of his overcrowded town. The sight of half-naked holidaymakers tucking into their lunchtime bouillabaisse at the quayside bars is enough to dull the healthiest of appetites. Bare breasts on the beaches will remain virtually compulsory. Elsewhere, half-naked tourists will be fined 75 francs.

M Mouillot believes that his ban will boost the efforts by Cannes to project to the world an image of elegance and sophistication. This is an ambition he shares with many Mediterranean resorts which have found that the "down-market" tourism which they courted assiduously over the past 30 years no longer lays golden eggs. Indeed it encourages lager loutism and deters high-spending middle classes. Like them he is probably too late.

Cannes, like most of the once-pretty fishing villages of France's Côte d'Azur and Spain's Costa del Sol, has been turned into a choking agglomeration of concrete holiday flats and streets overwhelmed by motor cars. Pause for a *pastis* beside the port and conversation is drowned by the roar of motorcycles while the view is blocked by the bus station.

Cannes is no longer a pretty place. Nor is St Tropez, whose most famous resident, Brigitte Bardot, has declared that vice, lewdness and exhibitionism have become the "sad and degrading" symbols of her home town. The charge might seem rich

from a star of French movies of the 1950s.

The developers and politicians who turned these seaside resorts into congested towns are realising that they have destroyed the charm that originally drew tourists. The well-heeled people they once attracted are repelled by the resorts' ugliness, noise and vulgarity. Bare flesh paraded on the *croisettes*, far from proving erotic, merely exposes the bodily imperfections of the current crop of visitors. However well intentioned, M Mouillot's cover-up campaign will not conceal that his town is simply another mass-market resort of short-term indulgence.

Ever since Lord Brougham stayed in Cannes, the British middle classes have been among Europe's most adventurous travellers. Once a place is discovered and overrun by the masses, they move on. These discriminating and usually prosperous souls have for years shunned the crowded resorts of the Var coast and now head for the rural villages of Tuscany and Provence and the valleys of the Dordogne and Garonne. There they struggle to enact brief fantasies of life as rustic peasants as once they enacted those of Homeric fishermen. Nothing the mayor can do will bring them back.

Yet woe betide these inland havens, where modesty, tranquillity and the pleasures of the table still reign. Let their hotels become too large, their orchards and vineyards fill with self-catering villas, or their dress in the market square be too immodest and the crowds will follow.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

'Iniquities' of the A-level status quo

From the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Strathclyde

Sir, Your leader today (August 15) on the iniquities of the A-level examination system is to be commended. As the undesirable consequences of premature specialisation become evident to all, the need to follow where other countries (including Scotland) have already led will at last dawn on those stubborn defenders of the status quo.

They have, of course, something to defend, and they will continue doing so to the bitter end. The cosy convenience of the present arrangement suits them well. Preparation for success in A levels is a rewarding and even profitable business, easily camouflaged as devotion to standards and best academic practice.

The need to broaden post-16 courses and *inter alia* to delay the dropping of science is by comparison, of little interest. Even, therefore, with *The Times* now on the side of the reformers, it is still too early to celebrate the demise of this pernicious examination.

The eventual broadening of post-16 examinations and curricula is, of course, not the end of the story. The present English first degree is equally open to the objection that it too invites unnecessary early specialisation. For most intending undergraduates the needless narrowing of choice at 18 is hardly more excusable than limiting choice at 16.

Almost all civilised countries encourage proper specialisation at the postgraduate level. There is no hurry to be expert. Ask any doctor or lawyer.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM HILLS,
Principal and Vice-Chancellor,
University of Strathclyde,
Glasgow G1 1XQ.

From Mr Maxwell Laurie
Sir, I see from your analysis today of this year's GCE A-level results that the lowest proportion of A and B grades are in business studies and of A, B and C grades in business studies and computing. What price our recovery from the next recession?

Faithfully yours,
MAXWELL LAURIE,
14 Harding Road,
Chesham, Buckinghamshire,
August 15.

From Mr William Allen
Sir, Some students greet their A-level results with elation, some with sadness. The latter might draw some comfort from a remark made to me some years ago by an eminent American professor of engineering with whom I was discussing the unreliability of exam results as a guide to success in later life.

"I can sum up your view quite simply for you," he finally said, "for the fact is that our grade As tend to become academics while our grade Bs end up working for our grade Cs".

Perhaps our prime minister could usefully mail that one over with his secretary of state for education too. Yours faithfully,
WM ALLEN,
The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, SW1.

Pupils' poverty

From Mr Darren A Court

Sir, Digby Anderson's point ("Budget lesson", Education Noticeboard, August 12) about the contribution made by schools to the future poverty of their pupils needs expanding. While I recognise he is saying that "schools are [only] partly to blame", I believe that he is looking for a scapegoat for ensuing degrees of poverty in our society.

We need to recognise that the teaching of budgeting and/or household finance is no way to attempt to tackle poverty, which is a state of existence, structured by various facets of society. Education is one of

Dental matters

From the Secretary of the General Dental Practitioners' Association

Sir, We will all raise a cheer if tooth decay all but vanishes in the next 25 years (report, August 14). Advances in dental technology will, however, require a change in attitude by patients both as regards home care and their willingness to attend the dentist for regular monitoring and advice.

At present the signs are not encouraging. Only half the population visits a dentist regularly and government has recently introduced a capitation system of payment for children which will lead to fewer visits and fewer preventive measures, such as the application of fluorides and sealants. This technology is there and the profession can deliver it. What is lacking is government will to introduce it.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL WATSON, Secretary,
General Dental Practitioners' Association,
High Street, Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex.

From Air Commodore J. S. Martin
Sir, Sir Philip Goodhart, MP (August 6), believes his figures on army dental cuts speak for themselves. Nevertheless, they are incomplete and therefore do not reflect reality.

Consultants, oral surgeons, etc., are excluded from the figures for civilian dentists' ratios and yet included in those for the armed services. Moreover, in the population as a whole, it is the young who use dental services disproportionately and not, as Sir Philip claims, the elderly.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES S. MARTIN (Chairman,
Armed Forces Committee),
British Dental Association,
64 Wimpole Street, W1.

Striking a balance on Third World aid

From the Secretary General of the UN Conference on Environment and Development

Sir, In your leading article, "Environment and hot air" (August 12), you express strong criticism of my approach to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. This seems to be based on your view that I am insisting that "the industrialised nations commit themselves to environmental aid transfers to the developing world 'in the hundred billion dollars a year category'".

This reflects a misunderstanding of my position on the needs of developing countries, and the ways those needs could be met. If developing countries are to make the transition to environmentally sound and sustainable patterns of development, their needs are indeed likely to be of this order of magnitude. But it would be clearly unrealistic to expect these needs to be met by mere increases in traditional aid transfers.

Most developing-country needs must be met by redeployment and more effective use of their own resources. But they will also have to have access to substantially increased external resources over time if their current outflow of resources is to be stemmed and their economies revitalised on an environmentally-sustainable basis.

This must include increased private investment, improved terms of trade and debt relief as well as concessional assistance. Such measures are surely in the interest of the entire world community.

Rhetoric or exhortation cannot accomplish this. It will only happen if industrialised and developing countries alike realise that it is in their common interest to join in a new global partnership, based on mutual needs and shared responsibilities.

The case for this is a strong and compelling one, in environmental as well as economic and security terms. Making this case in the most

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MCCAW,
2674 Orchard Avenue,
Victoria,
British Columbia, Canada.

From Miss J. Lory
Sir, When I begin the sixth form in September I shall be studying mathematics, physics and chemistry at A level. I owe this to the fact that my high school is one of a shrinking minority of schools which offer the three sciences (chemistry, physics and biology) as separate subjects at GCSE.

Had I gone to the local comprehensive I would have had to choose between single science (which can only hope to skim the surface of each science and would not have given me the knowledge to take any science at A level) and double science (which would only cover two thirds of the material in the individual syllabuses and would surely leave me poorly equipped for a science course at A level).

Maybe this is part of the reason for the shortage of A-level candidates in these subjects.

Yours faithfully,
J. LORY,
95 Roundway,
Waterlooville, Hampshire.

these lack of it, in the form of lack of marketable credentials, is a major contributory factor to future poverty for individuals.

But, having said that, a smattering of home economics does not facilitate the tackling of structured dependency (on a fading welfare state) to any significant level. It is, in effect, a kind of distraction: it gives the impression that something positive can be achieved, but the reality is far more deeply ingrained than such a superficial approach will recognise.

Yours faithfully,
DARREN A COURT,
8 Fillymead, Marnhill,
Nr Sturminster Newton, Dorset,
August 12.

North Kent at bay

From Mr Peter K. Lawrence

Sir, Knock, knock, it's the demolition man! Jonathan Meades's view of the North Kent coast (Saturday Review, August 10) is selective and unfair. Did he not stand on Gravesend promenade to see the fine vista of the Thames or watch the sun setting over the marshes?

The north Kent coast is not conventionally pretty, but as the historic home of industries such as paper and cement-making, and as an ancient gateway to London by water, it has its own fascinating character. There are lovely old churches of flint, colourful pubs, Tudor fortifications and fine views.

I suggest Mr Meades re-visit the area with a less jaundiced eye (but without revealing his name to local *Times* readers).

Yours faithfully,
PETER K. LAWRENCE,
Pan's Patch, Morleys Road,
Weald,
Sevenoaks, Kent.

Rank ignorance

From Mr B. H. Parker

Sir, It is not unknown for modes of address to be distorted deliberately in order to raise the status of the recipient (letters, August 2, 7, 8, 12, 14, 16).

However, to accord the ultimate elevation is going a touch too far. Recently I received a letter addressed to "The Creator".

Yours omnipotently,
BRIAN PARKER,
Curator of Laboratories,
Britannia Royal Naval College,
Dartmouth,
Devon,
August 13.

Limits on barter

From Mr M. J. Kay

Sir, Somewhat disappointingly, your otherwise sound leader of August 15 on freeing those in captivity in the Middle East ("Where barter must stop") tends to perpetuate the sort of myth about international law which at least the events of the last 12 months should have dispelled. I don't like those who hold the innocent to ransom — but I like an enduring whiff of hypocrisy even less.

By hoisting the name of international law like some crusader's banner, you have made no concession to Islam's centuries-old track record as an international system. Indeed, you almost appear to imply that those in the Middle East with a fundamental faith in Islam remain somehow beyond the pale — while we in the West, on our platform of international law, are within it.

International law is an intensely political creation, with a not conspicuously credible history — a

history which, if I may draw upon your leader's description of hostage-taking and hijacking, is also replete with violations in order to score political points.

It might instead be constructive to acknowledge the efforts of, for example, the government of Iran to bring the principles of a faith which emphasises the "true path" into some sort of workable harmony with the West's expectations of today's world. The adjustment, please note, is on their side of the house — it has to be, in view of our military and technological superiority.

But this is a time for true compromise. Secretary General Pérez de Cuellar may well work within the shadow of the UN charter — but that supreme statement of international law, and all that stems from it, has no relevance to what we hope he will achieve now.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN KAY,
8 Elm Grove,
Swainswick, Bath, Avon,
August 15.

complicated. They were conceived in 1074 less because of the "Muslim possession of Palestine" (a fact of life four centuries old by then) than because Seljuk Turks from central Asia, recent converts to Islam, had conquered Byzantine Anatolia, threatened the existence of the eastern Roman Empire, and destabilised the Levant. Hitherto indulgent Arab authorities were thus no longer able to vindicate salt-conducts to Christian pilgrims.

Yours faithfully,
ALEXANDER MURRAY,
University College,
Oxford, OX1 4BH,
August 13.

Throughout the crusading movement there were Christians who cried "No!" — on arguments covering most of the usual range, and broadly analogous to those inspired by the recent Gulf war, except (as I recall) the environmental.

The aim of the crusades was more

Christians on crusade

From Mr Alexander Murray

Sir, According to Clifford Longley (article, August 10) "nothing disfigures the history of the Christian crusades against Muslim possession of Palestine more than the failure of a single Christian figure to cry 'No!' to those wars and massacres".

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Courtly gesture

From the Reverend M. Turnham Elvins

Sir, On August 14 you published a photograph of two Austrians dressed as medieval knights on their way from Durnstern (not Dumstern, with respect) to Buckingham Palace to apologise for the imprisonment of their countrymen, of Richard I in 1193.

While I applaud such sentiments I hasten to remind these gentlemen that, in order to free King Richard, my collateral ancestor, Robert de Turnham, had the task of raising 150,000 marks in ransom money (*Dugdale's Baronage*, 1.662).

This was an enormous sum at that time. Some token compensation would not go amiss.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
MARK T. ELVINS,
Corpus Christi Church,
The Priest's House,
Tanyard, Henfield, Sussex.

To be continued . . .

From Mr Duncan Minshall

Sir, In *The Times* of August 15, Philip Howard notes the loss of the 15-minute *Morning Story* in Radio 4's new schedule changes. He failed to state that a new series, *Short Story*, will replace it from September 16, to be broadcast at 4.45 pm on each week day. There is also an increase from four to five short stories each week on Radio 4.

With an average of two short stories per week broadcast on Radio 3, many of them original writing, and with at least 252 short stories transmitted yearly on Radio 4, BBC Radio remains one of the chief supporters of the genre.

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN MINSHALL,
(Short story editor, BBC Radio),
Broadcasting House, W1,
August 15.

From the Hon Mrs Nicolas Stacey
Sir, I too have received some curiously addressed letters from junk mail-shots, but nothing to surpass one from an organisation (which loyalty prevents me from naming) addressing me as "The Honorary Mrs Stacey". A sign of the current attitude toward marriage, perhaps?

Yours faithfully,
ANNE STACEY,
The Old Vicarage,
Selling, Faversham, Kent.

cogent and persuasive manner is our principal task and the key to the success of the "Earth summit" in Rio.

Yours faithfully,
MAURICE STRONG,
Secretary General,
United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,
160 Route de Florissant,
CH-1231 Conches, Switzerland.

From Dr Norman Myers

Sir, You state that Mr Maurice Strong "is being worse than unrealistic" in his demands on the industrialised nations for environmental aid transfers. You might note some long-standing economic practices by these nations in this sphere on international debt, for instance.

When we take account of all foreign aid and development loans from the North to the South, and balance that against debt interest and capital payments from the South to the North, we find that developing nations currently transfer a net amount of around \$50 billion a year to the industrialised nations.

According to the World Bank, trade restrictions on the part of industrialised nations cost developing nations some \$100 billion a year in revenues foregone through potential export of manufactured goods, a sum almost twice the amount of foreign aid dispensed by industrialised nations.

Agricultural subsidies on the part of industrialised nations militate against agricultural exports from developing nations worth \$30 billion a year. Ironically, an end to these agricultural subsidies would help developed-nation economies too: a 3 per cent gain in GDP for Germany and a \$42 billion improvement in the US balance of trade.

Are these financial transfers not "worse than unrealistic" in a world that you agree is thoroughly interdependent?

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN MYERS,
Upper Meadow, Old Road,
Headington, Oxford.

history which, if I may draw upon your leader's description of hostage-taking and hijacking, is also replete with violations in order to score political points.

It might instead be constructive to acknowledge the efforts of, for example, the government of Iran to bring the principles of a faith which emphasises the "true path" into some sort of workable harmony with the West's expectations of today's world. The adjustment, please note, is on their side of the house — it has to be, in view of our military and technological superiority.

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Yours faithfully,
ANNE STACEY,
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Letters to the editor should carry a daytime



COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
August 18: Divine Service was held in Craillie Parish Church this morning.
The Reverend Keith Angus preached the sermon.
Mr John Young was received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the insignia of a Member of the Royal Victorian Order.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Gerbrand van der Eeckhout, painter, Amsterdam, 1611; John Dryden, poet Laureate 1670-89, Northampton, 1631; John Flamsteed, first astronomer royal 1675-1719, Denby, Derbyshire, 1646; James Nasmyth, inventor of the steam hammer, Edinburgh, 1808; Charles Doughty, traveller in Arabia, Leiston, Suffolk, 1843; Orville Wright, pioneer of aviation, Dayton, Ohio, 1871; Georges Enesco, violinist and composer, Iasi, Romania, 1881; Sir Arthur Waley, orientalist, London, 1889.

DEATHS: Augustus, Roman emperor 27 BC-AD 14, Nola, near Naples, AD 14; Blaise Pascal, philosopher, Paris, 1662; Sir Martin Shee, president of the Royal Academy 1830-45, Brighton, 1830; Richard Burdon Haldane, 1st Viscount Haldane, creator of the Territorial Army, Cloven, Tayside, 1928; Sergei Diaghilev, impresario, Venice, 1919; Sir Henry Wood, conductor of the Proms 1895-1944, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, 1944; Subhas Chandra Bose, Indian nationalist, Taiwan, 1945; Groucho Marx, Santa Monica, California, 1977.

The first English colonists arrived in America on the coast of Maine, 1605. Day of Thanksgiving in Britain, 1945.

Church news

The Rev Peter J. Rainford, Vicar, Wednesday St Bartholomew (Lichfield), to retire as from 31 October.
The Rev Jean Wilby, Team Vicar, Hermitage Team Ministry, to resign as from 9 September to take her vacation at All Saints' Convent, Oxford.
The Rev Stephen Coulson, Assistant Curate, Christ Church, Summerfield, (Birmingham), to resign to take up study at Crowther Hall.

Davies Laing and Dick College

Davies Laing and Dick are pleased to announce the following scholarships to University: P. Bhattacharya to London University, medicine; T. Bonofo to Leeds, biology/management; A. Hart to London, medicine; L. Legat to London, law; R. Robertson to London, economics.

Marriages

Lord Kenilworth and Mrs K. McDonough
The marriage took place on August 15, at Chelsea Register Office, between Lord Kenilworth and Mrs K. McDonough.

Captain D.H. Labouchere
and Miss C.J. Lawson Johnston
The marriage took place on Saturday at All Saints' Church, Odell, Bedfordshire, of Captain David Labouchere, The Queen's Own Hussars, son of Mr and Mrs J.P. Labouchere, of North Elmham, Norfolk, to Miss Caroline Lawson Johnston, daughter of the Hon Mrs Lawson Johnston and stepdaughter of the Hon Arthur Lawson Johnston, of Odell Manor. The Rev Douglas Claypole-White officiated, assisted by the Rev Trevor Lightowler.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her stepfather, was attended by Arthur Bristow, Tom Clark, Anna Claydon, of Portwrinkle, Cornwall, to Miss Judith Hetherington, daughter of Sir Thomas Hetherington, QC, and Lady Hetherington, of Lingfield. The Rev D.J. Abel officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Laura Trayburn, Charlotte Vass, Louise Vass, Emma Carrington Smith and James Trayburn. Lieutenant James Lowther, RN, was best man.
A reception was held at the Copthorne Gatwick Hotel and the honeymoon will be spent in Europe.

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Birthdays today

Professor Quentin Bell, art historian, 81; Commandant Daphne Blundell, former director, WRNS, 75; Mr Gordon Brand, J. golfer, 33; Mr Arthur Calder-Marshall, author, 83; Lord Cocks of Hartcliffe, 62; Mr K.H.M. Dixon, former chairman, Rowntree, 62; Mr C.J. Driver, Master, Wellington College, 59; Lady Dunbar of Hemphrys, 85; the Right Rev Dr Gerald Ellison, former Bishop of London, 81; Lord Ennals, 69; Dame Rose Heilbrunn, former High Court judge, 77; Mr E.R. Heward, former Chief Master of the Supreme Court, 79; Mr Richard Ingram, former editor, *Private Eye*, 54.
Mr A.G. Lives, former secretary, King Edward's Hospital Fund for London, 87; Mr David Lodge, actor, 70; Sir Edward Rayne, former chairman, H. and M. Rayne, 69; Mr Michael Rope, Keeper of Public Records, 39; Mr Willie Shoemaker, jockey, 60; Mrs Phyllida Stewart-Roberts, superintendent, Dayton Ambulance Brigade, 48; Mr G.W. von Mallinckrodt, executive chairman, Schroders, 61; Surgeon Vice-Admiral Sir James Watt, 77.

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

The following have been elected fellows of Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh:
Dr J. A. G. Lives, former secretary, King Edward's Hospital Fund for London, 87; Mr David Lodge, actor, 70; Sir Edward Rayne, former chairman, H. and M. Rayne, 69; Mr Michael Rope, Keeper of Public Records, 39; Mr Willie Shoemaker, jockey, 60; Mrs Phyllida Stewart-Roberts, superintendent, Dayton Ambulance Brigade, 48; Mr G.W. von Mallinckrodt, executive chairman, Schroders, 61; Surgeon Vice-Admiral Sir James Watt, 77.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are to visit Australia next February, it was announced in Canberra yesterday. Mr Bob Hawke said the Queen and the Duke will visit New South Wales and South Australia states and the Australian Capital Territory from February 18 to 25.
They will attend the 150th anniversary celebrations of the founding of Sydney.

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They will attend the 150th anniversary celebrations of the founding of Sydney.

Mr K.D. Malone
and Miss L. Milton-Thompson
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Parish Church of St Lullwy, Menheniot, Cornwall, of Mr Kenneth Malone, younger son of Mr Patrick Malone and of the late Mrs Malone, of Acton, London, to Miss Louise Milton-Thompson, youngest daughter of Sir Godfrey and Lady Milton-Thompson, of Pool, Hall, Menheniot, Canon Paul Mellor and Father Bart Nannery officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Jessica Resnais, Hannah Fitzgibbon and Joanna Prichard. Mr Eamonn Malone was best man.

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OBITUARIES

TERENCE KILMARTIN

Terence Kilmartin, CBE, Irish born translator and former literary editor of *The Observer*, died on August 17 aged 69. He was born on January 10, 1922.

TERENCE Kilmartin was London's longest resident literary editor by far. He was in the post at *The Observer* from 1952 until 1986, when he and his wife sold their Cheyne Row, Chelsea house in exchange for a small London flat and a property in Provence. A laid-back man who conveyed an impression of laziness that was in fact highly deceptive, Kilmartin had already distinguished himself as the impeccable translator of the works of Henri de Montherlant and André Malraux's *Anti-Memoirs*, but it was his 1981 version of Marcel Proust's *A la recherche du temps perdu* which made him world-famous. This rendering of a masterpiece is an unusual achievement, and it arose from extraordinary circumstances: it is a blend of Scott-Moncrieff's famous version with material that was unavailable in the 1920s, and with a good deal of re-translation where this was (as it often was) necessary. The result is that Proust as seen by Kilmartin in English can hardly be superseded.

Terence Kevin Kilmartin was the seventh of eight children born into a Catholic family in the Republic of Ireland. His father died when he was a baby, and the family split up. He came to England and was educated at Xavierian College at Mayfield in East Sussex. It was through a piece of strange enterprise that he acquired the intimate knowledge of French which was going to stand him in such good stead: at 17 he landed a job teaching English to the boys of a French family in France, where he scarcely had



any French. He had to learn it fast. In 1939 he was unfit for the regular forces because he had lost a kidney as a child; he joined SOE (Special Operations Executive) and in 1944 was parachuted into France, an adventure for which he earned medals, but which he would seldom discuss.

After the war he worked as a radio journalist, but joined *The Observer* foreign affairs staff in 1949, becoming assistant literary editor in 1950 and literary editor in 1952. In this capacity he recruited many well-known writers to the paper, including Anthony Burgess, Angus Wilson (as a regular reviewer) and A. Alvarez. He was notable for making judicious use of younger or unknown writers, to whom he was perhaps fairer than any comparable literary editor of his time. In certain senses he seemed, to some, remote from literature; in reality he was quietly exercising a responsibility that was

important to him, of making sure that justice was done to good writing in the pages which he controlled. His knowledge of literature, particularly of French literature, was immense; but he never paraded it. In the meantime he translated most of Montherlant's major works, in some cases making new and vastly superior renderings (for example, of *Pitié pour les femmes*).

It became obvious that Kilmartin was the man to revise the Scott-Moncrieff version of Proust in time for its emergence from copyright in 1981. The text from which Scott-Moncrieff had had to work was, in the words of Samuel Beckett, "abominable". A new and decent one had appeared in 1954, published by Gallimard. Because Scott-Moncrieff's version, both with its virtues and lesser-known bawdierisms (not his fault), howlers (a few), small errors, clumsiness

(many) and imperfections was almost a sacred cow to many Proustians, who might kick up a considerable fuss if it was dispensed with, the publisher felt it must be preserved so far as was consonant with accuracy. The job was accomplished with considerable tact and aplomb, not least by Kilmartin himself, who produced what can only be described as a wonderful compromise. He himself abhorred Scott-Moncrieff's precision, while admiring his general achievement (he was in the best position to know exactly what this was), and he gave what is undoubtedly a classic translation of a masterpiece. His own achievement thus in every respect equals that of his predecessor.

He was appointed CBE in 1987 and died after a long and courageous battle against cancer. He is survived by his widow, Joanna, and by their son and daughter.

DAVID BEATTIE



David Wilson Beattie, a pioneer of the British venture capital movement, died of a heart attack on August 13 aged 52. He was born on September 30, 1938.

DAVID Beattie identified at an early stage the opportunities that were being created by Margaret Thatcher's call for a more entrepreneurial approach to business, to be matched by a reduced industrial role on the part of the state. He conceived and executed one of the first of the wave of privatisations inspired by the new mood, and did so in a highly novel and innovative manner. In so doing, he helped to signal a regeneration of the then dormant venture capital industry in this country.

Beattie was born in Carlisle, Cumbria, the son of a middle-class family. His father was in the stone-masonry business. In 1960 Beattie graduated from Manchester University with an honours degree in mathematics, statistics and aerodynamics. He then became a statistical assistant for Cadbury Brothers, the family-run chocolate business which

became part of Cadbury Schweppes. There Beattie qualified as a cost and management accountant. He had a year with Johnson & Johnson, the American health products company, before rejoining Cadbury in 1964. For the next 11 years Beattie moved up the managerial ladder. He was a development director of McVitie Cadbury Cakes, financial planning manager for Cadbury Schweppes (Overseas) and finally managing director of the group's specialty foods division. By 1976 the British economy was emerging from a severe downturn.

The Wilson government was highly critical of the City of London for its alleged unwillingness to support greenfield projects - the so-called equity gap. As Harold Wilson left office, Beattie joined the state-owned National Enterprise Board as director of its smaller companies division, covering investments in companies with fewer than 1,000 employees. He later became director of the business development division, responsible for corporate planning and investment in advanced technology. Beattie came to see smaller companies as the lifeblood of Britain's future, and the election of the Thatcher government gave him an unparalleled opportunity to put his ideas into practice.

Thatcher ordered the NEB to divest itself of its holdings and dissolve itself. While this was straightforward enough with the bigger investments, there was still a portfolio of shares in eight lesser companies which could not easily be sold. Beattie persuaded the

board to let him form Grosvenor Development Capital, named after the NEB's address in Grosvenor Gardens in Victoria. This would hold the eight companies, valued at £2 million. With £6.9 million backing from City institutions, the NEB's interest was diluted to less than a third, effectively privatising the whole business.

That occurred in February 1982. Three years later Beattie formed Grosvenor Venture Managers to advise several client companies, of which Grosvenor Development Capital became one. Altogether he raised £60 million for these companies and in 1990 floated Grosvenor Development Capital on the stock market as an investment trust.

Religion was a strong force in Beattie's life. He was an active elder in Maidenhead Baptist Church and was on the Council of Scripture Gift Mission. But he never forgot his boyhood passion for steam railways, and was often found doodling aerodynamic shapes in an echo of his student days. Beattie is survived by his widow, Pauline, and a daughter.

Leslie Griffiths

Priestly president's ray of hope

WHILE the world has been properly preoccupied with war in the Gulf, with human tragedy in the Horn of Africa, Kurdistan, Bangladesh, and Yugoslavia, a little miracle is threatening to happen in Haiti, "the poorest country in the western world." Because media coverage has been so slight, a re-born Haiti seems rather like a seed growing secretly. And there is hope that, one day, it will reveal itself in all its glory with branches strong enough to bear the weight of its national responsibilities and leaves broad enough to give shade and protection to all its children.

The dramatic (often violent) drive towards democracy has produced the unlikely figure of Jean-Bertrand Aristide as Haiti's new head of state. He was inaugurated to the presidency on February 7, five years to the day since Jean-Claude Duvalier (Papa Doc) Duvalier, abandoned Haiti for his cushioned exile in France. Aristide is a Roman Catholic priest who, week by week through the years preceding the dictator's downfall, preached a message of hope and defiance in his slum parish on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital. He rapidly became a focus of opposition to the Duvalier regime.

Aristide is a man whose own humble beginnings give him a natural rapport with the poor and dispossessed. He speaks their language, a rich Creole veined with aphorism, wit, and wisdom. But he is no ignoramus. He speaks more languages than the Prime Minister has O-levels, and is deeply versed in the tenets of liberation theology. A key image in all

his rhetoric is that of the meal-table. It carries eucharistic overtones from Father Aristide's priestly days. He avows that the poor people of Haiti are no longer going to scramble for pickings left around and under the table of the rich. They are rather to expect, as of right, their place at the table; he promises a feast of the heavenly banquet prepared for all.

When Aristide was just a preacher, he used to spell out this vision of a just society with great clarity. He would also name those people (politicians, army officers, members of the dreaded *tonton macoutes*) whose tyranny, cruelty, and greed stood in the way of progress towards such a just society. It was a potent combination of themes and got him into trouble on two fronts.

On the one hand, those in power, the objects of his accusations, schemed to get rid of him. Paid hit-men ganged up and again to assassinate him. In 1988, his church was burned down while he was saying Mass, 13 people were killed and more than 70 injured by flying bullets and flailing machetes. That same evening, the thugs who had done this dastardly deed went on national television to boast of their exploits.

But Aristide overcame all such attempts on his life and people began to think his survival was divinely ordained. And then, from quite a different direction, Haiti's Roman Catholic bishops became embarrassed by their turbulent priest. They had begun by giving their support to literacy and other grassroots efforts whose aim was to work for a more just and humane society. But they got cold

feet and blamed Aristide for actually fanning the flames of hatred and increasing the likelihood of violent reprisal. So they told him to stop preaching his firebrand sermons and, when he did not, they withdrew his licence to function as a priest. All of this simply made him more popular with his public who resolutely refused to allow the church to send him out of Haiti.

This is the man who is now the country's president. When I asked him, on one of my four recent visits there, how he saw the difference between being a prophet and being a politician, his answer came at once: "The prophet has a vision of the Kingdom of God where peace and justice reign," he said. "The politician has to define the steps needed to get to that kingdom and take his people there one step at a time."

Since his election, Aristide has set up the machinery of democracy. Two elected houses of parliament are beginning to discover the parameters of their power and to learn the realities of political organisation. A prime minister and cabinet are working at a national agenda that sets justice, the renewal of Haiti's agricultural base, and literacy as some of its over-riding objectives. The prophet-turned-politician is now confronted by the realities of power, and also by the enmity of those who wish to obstruct his programmes by terrorism.

There has already been one tentative coup d'état, others have been rumoured. The senior prelate of the Roman Catholic Church, Cardinal Ligoné, Archbishop of Port-au-

Prince, has been driven into exile for his Duvalierist sympathies. Arson has rased many buildings, including the capital's ancient cathedral (where the legendary Toussaint L'Ouverture swore his oath as governor of St Domingue, then a French colony), and also a popular market where 2,000 traders sold their wares in a place whose combination of smells, yellows, energy and synergy was as good an introduction to Haiti as any foreigner could ever need. And there remain those subterranean heavings as rump Duvalierists struggle for life and another taste of power in this new age whose innocence is still so startling. Aristide has the added difficulty as a politician of patching together Haiti's relationship with the United States after his pulsating condemnations of the Americans in his prophetic days.

And so, all is to play for, all could be lost. There are trees to plant, doctors to train, children to teach; the land is bare, there are few jobs, food is scarce; the country has little infrastructure, no money, and mountains to climb. For a brief moment, Jean-Bertrand Aristide has focused national hope and pride. There is some breathing space. The bishops of his own church, once hopelessly divided about his presidency, are now united around him. Their unity is a symbol of brighter possibilities ahead. This is a time for all peoples of good will to support this struggling plant as it reaches up towards the sun. God knows how much we need some good news in this dark world of sin and suffering. Haiti could just offer some.

The writer is Superintendent of the West London Mission.

THE RT REV ERIC WILD

The Right Reverend Eric Wild, Suffragan Bishop of Reading, 1972-82, died on August 10 aged 76. He was born on November 6, 1914.

ERIC Wild was appointed Archdeacon of Berkshire in 1967, and Bishop of Reading in 1972, at a time of radical change in the structures of the Church of England. Among much else, synodical government was on the way; and the implementation of the Sheffield Report (with its call for drastic cuts in clerical manpower, and redeployment of its financial resources and buildings) was on every agenda.

Few men were better fitted to deal with the anguish and complexities of this time of change than Eric Wild. He made an instant impact upon the Diocese of Oxford, bringing to its ministry relentless energy, a forceful personality and the sharpest of minds. He had behind him a considerable range of experience as a parish priest, a naval chaplain, and administrator in the field of education. He had the first-rate administrator's gift of judging the consequences of change, and of being fully prepared for them. Though accepting of administrative reform, he was never an enthusiast for synodical government or for the bureaucracy of Church bureaucracy. To hear his rich and rumbling voice pronounce the words "Synodical Man" was to experience the particular pleasure of dismissal by inflection. Not that he was hostile to synods. He played his part in establishing and supporting them. It was rather that he understood where the real power lay. He judged that a Church which remained structurally hierarchical could never function comfortably alongside a quasi-parliamentary decision-making body. He was thus content to see "government by synod" adjust itself in the long run to the ethos of traditional Anglican governance.

Eric Wild was educated at Manchester Grammar School and Keble College, Oxford - from which he went direct (with a degree in theology) to curacies in Liverpool and Haydock. He was chaplain RNRV from 1942 to 1946, serving in the cruiser *Alex* during the Normandy landings. After the war he became a notable vicar of St George's, Wigan (1946-52) and then of Hindley (1952-59).

His first taste of wider Church administration came with his appointment in 1959 as director of religious education in the diocese of Peterborough (which brought with

it a canonry of the cathedral). He went on in 1962 for a five-year appointment as general secretary of the National Society for Promoting Religious Education - from which he was chosen by Bishop Harry Carpenter, of Oxford, to become the first Archdeacon of Berkshire (in modern times) who was not also Bishop of Reading: until then the two offices were always held in tandem.

His consecration in 1972 as Bishop of Reading gave him the opportunity fully to reveal his great gifts as a pastor. "There is not a rectory or vicarage kitchen in Berkshire in which I have not drunk coffee," he would claim. And indeed his priorities were clear for all to see. First, his concern for his clergy and their families; he was instant in compassion and action in every clerical crisis; he drew his own together with "bands of love". In the wider responsibility to the congregations of the royal county and its people the image of the forceful administrator was overtaken by that of one who spoke directly and with majestic simplicity to



his hearers' needs and perplexities; but always with spiritual authority and prophetic insight.

His retirement to Newbury in 1982 opened the doors for pastoral fulfilment and usefulness. During his years as Bishop he had grown ever more committed to the vision of the Eucharist as the universal Church's only true bond of unity. Thus he became the more attached to the Anglican Catholic tradition without ever troubling himself with party or faction. He was much in demand as counsellor and instructor to several well-known Berkshire schools, as director of retreats, and always as a wise and discerning guide to "all sorts and conditions of men" who sought him out. He leaves his wife, Moyra, his daughter Hilary, and his son, Patrick.

RUTH COHEN

Catherine Kennedy writes:

I HOPE you will let me add a few words to the excellent obituary on Ruth Cohen which appeared on August 12, mainly covering her career and professional life.

Ruth was one of four highly intelligent and talented children in a wealthy Jewish family which had world-wide political, social and academic connections. In the mid-1930s they turned their large ram-

bling house near Berkhamsstead into a halfway house for Jewish refugees, in many cases financing entire families to escape. In cases where children fled from Germany without their parents, foster homes were often found. Many Jewish people living both in the UK and the USA owe their very existence to the Cohen family and for several years Ruth devoted all her spare time to this cause.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr C.M. Danbury
and Miss G.A. Fosbery
The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of the late Mr Peter Danbury, Recorder, and of Mrs Hazel Danbury, of New Malden, Surrey, and Georgina, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Reginald Fosbery, of Gosport, Hampshire.

Mr G.N. Farr
and Miss J.F. Luchlan
The engagement is announced between George, younger son of Sir John Farr, MP, and Lady Farr, of Lampert, Northamptonshire, and Jane, daughter of Mr C.R. Luchlan, of Cambridge, and Mrs David Gape and stepdaughter of Major D. F. Gape, of Caxton, Cambridgeshire.

Mr M.P.R. Rimeil
and Miss J.R. Sinclair
The engagement is announced between Mark, elder son of Mr and Mrs Philip Rimeil, of London, SW1, and Joanna, daughter of Mr C.R. Luchlan, of Cambridge, and Mrs David Gape and stepdaughter of Major D. F. Gape, of Caxton, Cambridgeshire.

Mr R.D. Rogers
and Miss H. Wood
The engagement is announced between Robert David, only son of Mr and Mrs Douglas Rogers, of Taunton, Somerset, and Helen, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs George Wood, of Alderley Edge, Cheshire.

Appointments

Latest appointments include: Admiral of the Fleet Sir William Stawley to be Chairman of the Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust, in succession to Elizabeth, anti-General Sir Stuart Pringle, RM.

تكنولوجيا من الأصل

BBC 1

- 6.00** *Ceeba 6.30* BBC Breakfast News
9.05 *Around the World with Willy Fog* (r) 9.35 *Why Don't You...?*
 Activity ideas for children who are at a loose end (r)
10.00 News, regional news and weather 10.05 *Playdays* (r) 10.25
Muppet Babies. Animated adventures with the infant puppets (r)
11.00 News, regional news and weather 11.05 *Peaceable Kingdom*.
 Animal drama starring Lindsay Wagner as the director of a Los
 Angeles zoo 11.55 *The History Man*. Bryan McNeilly visits the
 gardens of Glendoe near Gateshead, created in the early 1700s by
 George Bowles, now sadly neglected
12.00 News, regional news and weather 12.05 *The Garden Party*.
 Today's action includes a discussion on whether women are safer
 drivers than men. Glynis Christian hosts a German coffee morning.
 David Bellamy finds out when a weed is not a weed. John Mortimer
 reflects on the realities of *Rumpole of the Bailey* and Pam Ayres
 recites a poem on summer 12.55 *Regional News* and weather
1.00 *One O'Clock News* and weather 1.30 *Neighbours*. (Ceeba)
1.50 *The Christmas Kitchen Garden* (r). (Ceeba) 2.20 *Shanty and
 Hatch*. Silences. Paul Michael (Ceeba) and David Soul are the crime
 fighters, this week going to the rescue of a good natured desti-
 mite who becomes an ideal pawn for a racketeer. (Ceeba)
3.05 *The Hogan Family*. American sitcom 3.30 *The George Formby
 Story* (r). (Ceeba)
4.10 *The New Lease*. The cenny canine discovers an ancient Indian
 burial site. (Ceeba) 4.35 *Defenders of the Earth*. Animation (r)
4.55 *Newsnight* 5.05 *The Lowdown*. Today I Am A Man. Two 13-
 year-old Jewish boys explain the significance of their barmitzva
 ceremonies (r). (Ceeba)
5.35 *Neighbours*. (r). (Ceeba) Northern Ireland: *Sporadic*. 5.40
Inside Ulster.
6.00 *One O'Clock News* with John Humphrys and Moira Stuart.
 Weather
6.30 *Regional News*. Northern Ireland: *Neighbours*
7.00 *Wogan* with Ron Moody and music from Sonia. There is also a
 discussion on post-traumatic stress disorders
7.30 *Them and Us*. This week actor and gay rights campaigner Sir Ian
 McKellen travels to the Isle of Man, where you can still be
 imprisoned for being homosexual. (Ceeba)
8.00 *Dear John*. Gentle comedy about a newly-divorced man, shown in
 tribute to the late Ralph Bates (r). (Ceeba)
8.30 *Brush Strokes*. Lame sitcom about a painter's unsatisfying
 brushes with romance. Starring Karl Howman (r). (Ceeba)
9.00 *News* and weather 9.30 *Regional News* and weather
9.30 *Persepolis*. In the final programme about the Gulf war, Steve
 Bradshaw talks to the top Allied commanders and politicians
 responsible for Operation Desert Storm, among them US secretary
 for defence Dick Cheney, Tom King and Mrs Thatcher's personal
 secretary Charles Powell

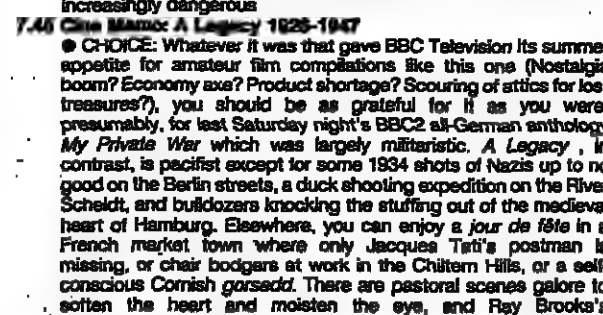


Fictional murders: the sour-mouthed law enforcers (10.10pm)

- 10.10** *Law and Order: Murders*.
 CHOICE: With New York hit by six child killings in a week, it's
 small wonder the city cop muses about: "At this rate, we're going
 to have a worse mortality rate than Ethiopia". This is a sour line,
 and it is sourly delivered - as indeed, is most of the dialogue in this
 series. The crime and courtroom series that seems to refuse to
 take a step in either law or order. "No-one seems to have a
 verbal altercation any more", another police officer says tonight -
 a classic understatement given that the city's murder toll has risen
 yet again. *Murders* is a strong story about the young lives that
 are blighted by the evil deeds of their elders. Except for a short,
 sharp, non-violent class, it has no action worth mentioning and
 is none the worse for that. The highest quality it can be said to
 have when the closing titles roll, we read with total disbelief that
 there wasn't a word of documentary truth in it
11.00 *Operation Raleigh: With My House Upon My Back*. A film from
 the Australian Film and Television School about a group of young
 people from Britain's inner cities who spent a Christmas digging
 graves on the moors of southwest Tasmania (r). (Ceeba)
11.30 *The Camel Rider*. Dr Jonathan Miller considers the options
 available to the elderly and infirm who do not want to go into a
 residential home (r). (Ceeba)
12.00 *Weather*. News headlines and weather

BBC 2

- 8.45** *Open University: Education - Time to Learn*. Ends at 7.40
9.00 *BC: The Archaeology of the Bible Lands*. Magnus Magnusson is
 in Ninewa to examine the rise to power of ancient Assyria (r)
9.45 *Writers' Houses*. P.J. Kavanagh visits the Buckinghamshire
 village where the 18th century poet William Cowper lived (r)
9.50 *Seventy Summers: The Story of a Farm* (r)
9.55 *Film: The Last Squadron* (1932, b/w). Comedy-drama about first
 world war pilots finding work as stunt men. Starring Jack McCrea
 and directed by George Archibald
10.45 *Film: Ivanhoe* (1952). Robert Taylor and Elizabeth Taylor star in a
 swashbuckling epic based on the novel by Sir Walter Scott.
 Directed by Richard Thorpe
12.30 *Info Orbs*. Documentary about the work of a medical team who fly
 round the globe in a converted DC-8 treating some of the world's
 42 million blind people (r). (Ceeba) 1.20 *Charlie Chalk* (r)
1.35 *The Way That I Went*. Belfast-born Joe McWilliams recalls the
 beauty of the Mourne Mountains (r)
2.00 *News* and weather followed by *Songs of Praise* from Dartmouth
 (r). (Ceeba) 2.35 *Early One Morning*. The changing pattern of the
 seasons
3.00 *News* and weather followed by *To Build A Fire*. A man faces
 death in the Arctic (r) 3.50 *News*, regional news and weather
4.00 *Byways*. Jack Tinker with the history of the Brighton railway line
4.30 *Our Darren*. Documentary about a 17-year-old boy's courageous
 fight for recovery after being paralysed from the neck down in a car
 accident (r). (Ceeba) 5.10 *Wild World*. A focus on a remote Costa
 Rican beach which is a breeding ground for turtles (r)
6.00 *Film: Countdown* (1988). James Dean and Robert Duvall star in
 this early film from director Robert Altman. When the US space
 agency learn that the Russians have a manned ship in space, they
 attempt to speed up their own projected moonshot. Unfortunately
 the only available spacecraft is outdated and the mission becomes
 increasingly dangerous
7.40 *Cine Mance: A Legacy 1928-1947*
 CHOICE: Whatever it was that gave BBC Television its summer
 appetite for amateur film compilations like this one (Nostalgia
 boom? Economy save? Product shortage? Shortage of titles for last
 treasures?), you should be as grateful for it as you were,
 presumably, for last Saturday night's BBC2 all-German anthology
My Private War which was largely militaristic. *A Legacy*, in
 contrast, is pacifist except for some 1934 shots of Nazis up to no
 good on the Berlin streets, a duck cooling expedition on the River
 Scheldt, and bulldozers knocking the stuffing out of the medieval
 heart of Hamburg. Elsewhere, you can enjoy a *jour de fete* in a
 French market town where only Jacques Tati's postman is
 missing, or cheer bodgers at work in the Chiltern Hills, or a self-
 conscious Cornish gorsead. There are pastoral scenes galore to
 soothe the heart and moisten the eye, and Roy Brooks's
 commentary is sensitively attuned to the whole delightful
 enterprise. (Ceeba)



On a charitable highway to Heaven: Frankie Veal (8.30pm)

- 8.30** *Different Drummer: Fleetbag*.
 CHOICE: The latest, and last, American science to feature in
 this distinctly different documentary series is an all-year-round
 series of the life of a tubby fellow called Frankie Veal who
 lives under a flat cap and behind a round cigar and who, when
 pressed to express his simple philosophy towards his less-
 fortunate fellow human beings, replies: "I give them a lot of yesses,
 and not too many no's". In short, Frankie Veal is people who
 don't have much, and without expecting to be paid back, he tops
 up their meagre resources with dollar hand-outs, free meals, or
 accommodation for new-born babies. In the film, Frankie Veal
 outside which he used to sell newspapers. By his own calculation,
 he is worth between \$2m and \$3m, yet should have no difficulty
 going through either the eyes of a needle or the gates of Heaven.
 (Ceeba)
9.00 *Film: Prison For Children* (1986). A drama focusing on the plight
 of young offenders who are sent to brutalising correctional
 institutions. Starring John Rittor and Barry Thomas. Directed by
 Larry Peerce. (Ceeba) 10.30 *Newsnight* with John Simpson
11.15 *Edinburgh Nights* presented by Tracey Medcoe and Kirsty Watt
11.35 *Weather*

ITV

- 6.00** *TV-am*
9.25 *Vicky the Viking*. Animated adventures 9.50 *Thames News* and
 weather
9.55 *Short Story Theatre: The Seven Wives of Joanna Peabody*. A
 girl discovers how rewarding life can be when not thinking
 herself 10.25 *Just for the Record*. Includes a smoke skywriter
 and a vast swimming pool (r)
10.50 *News* 10.55 *Adventures on Kythera* II. Children's adventure
 series set on a Greek island 11.25 *OX Tales*. Animation 11.55
Regional News and weather
12.00 *Disney Cartoon* starring Pluto 12.10 *Rosie and Jim*. Puppets (r)
12.30 *News* with John Suchet. Weather. 1.10 *Thames News* and
 weather
2.10 *Home and Away*. (Oracle) 1.50 *A Country Practice*
2.20 *Thames Help*. Jackie Sprackley looks at voluntary work which
 involves a long term commitment 2.50 *The Green Life Guide*.
 Magazine series investigating environmental issues. With Alistair
 McDonald and Dilly Barlow
3.15 *News headlines* 3.20 *Thames News* 3.25 *Families*. Spot linking
 the north of England with Australia
3.55 *Frappie Rock* 4.10 *Cartoon* 4.30 *T-Bag* and the Ravens of the
 T-Set (r) 4.45 *The Fantastic Adventures of Mr Rowlf* (r)
5.10 *Blockbusters* with Bob Holness
5.40 *News* with Carol Barnes. (Oracle) Weather
5.55 *Thames Help*. Jackie Sprackley looks at voluntary work which
 involves a long term commitment. Today - hospice volunteers
6.00 *Home and Away* (r). (Oracle) 6.30 *Thames News* and weather
7.00 *Plaza Patrol*. Last in the same sitcom series starring Cammie and
 Ball as two night security men working in a shopping plaza
7.30 *Coronation Street*. (Oracle)



Thrust into a world of political intrigue: Goldie Hawn (8.00pm)

- 8.00** *Film: Protocol* (1984). Entertaining comedy-drama specially
 designed for Goldie Hawn who plays Sunny Davis, a waitress at a
 cocktail bar in Washington DC. When she accidentally saves an
 important Arab diplomat from an assassination attempt, White
 House aides are so impressed that they persuade her to join the
 Department of Protocol. Directed by Herbert Ross. (Oracle)
8.50 *ITV Autumn Preview*. Highlights from some of the forthcoming
 attractions for this autumn
10.00 *News* at Ten with Alistair Burnet and Julia Somerville. (Oracle)
10.40 *Under The Skin*. The horrors of the King's Cross area of November 1987,
 when 33 people died and many others suffered extensive burns,
 showed up the desperate need in Britain for improved plastic
 surgery facilities. A new research unit was set up at University
 College Hospital and this documentary, presented by Dr Angus
 McGrouther, shows some of the problems involved in trying to help
 burn victims recover both physically and mentally
11.10 *Film: Murder Takes All* (1988). Stacy Keach stars as Mickey
 Spillane's tough private eye, Mike Hammer. In this stylish crime
 caper, Hammer turns down a case from a Las Vegas entertainer
 but soon finds out that no one says "no" to Johnny Roman.
 Directed by John Nicola
12.00pm *Sportsworld Extra*. Tony Francis introduces two-wheel action
 with highlights from the Scottish Prostate City Cycling
 League. Also there is a roundup of news and action from the
 opening encounters of the new football season
1.50 *World Chess Championship*. The best chess players in the world
 continue to fight it out for a place in the semi-finals in their best
 of eight matches. The Times's chess correspondent and
 grandmaster Raymond Keene analyses the moves in highlights
 sponsored by The Times
2.05 *Home and Away* (r). (Oracle) An all-woman cast in a stagey
 melodrama about a group of volunteer nurses in a doomed Pacific
 base hospital. Just after Pearl Harbor. Stars Margaret Sullivan, Ann
 Sothorn and Joan Blondell. Directed by Richard Thorpe
4.10 *Film: Blondie Plays Cupid* (1939, b/w). Continuing the series
 of comedies based on the Chick Young strip cartoon about the
 Bustard family. Dagwood (Arthur Lake) helps a young couple to
 elope and climb into the bride's father's room by mistake. With
 Penny Singleton as Blondie and Glenn Ford as the bridegroom.
 Directed by Frank Strayer
5.30 *ITN Morning News* with Anne Leathers. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00** *The Channel Four Daily*
9.25 *Film: The Mikado* (1939). First full-length film of the Gilbert and
 Sullivan opera, starring Kenny Baker, Jean Colin and Martyn Green
 with the London Symphony Orchestra and the chorus of the
 D'Oyly Carte Opera Company. Directed by Victor Schertzinger
11.05 *White Fury - the Untamed Tibet*. Documentary following a team
 of international white-water rafters as they travel through the icy
 waters of the Rongbuk river in Tibet (r)
12.00 *Flowering Passions: The Amazing Technicolour Garden*. In
 the last programme of the series, Anna Pavord meets John
 Hubbard, an artist who is famed for his use of colour (r) (Teletext)
12.30 *Business Daily*
1.00 *Sesame Street*. Entertaining early learning series (r)
2.00 *Film: Walk East on Beacon* (1952, b/w). Completely cold war spy
 thriller starring George Murphy as an FBI inspector on the trail of
 Russian agents. With Finlay Currie, Virginia Gilmore and Karel
 Stepanek. Directed by Alfred Wertheimer
3.50 *Pete Smith Specialities* (b/w). Short film about a day in the life of
 a Hollywood animal scout
4.00 *Get Smart: Shipments to Beirut*. Sixties spoof spy series starring
 Don Adams
4.30 *Countdown*. Words and numbers game show
5.00 *On the Other Hand*. Discussion programme dealing with issues
 which are particularly relevant to the Asian community. Today's
 programme explores the relationship between indulgent Asian
 mothers and their adult sons (r)
6.00 *The Wonder Years*. Fred Savage is the wistful adolescent
 growing up in Saville America (r)
6.30 *The Henderson Kids*. Antipodean drama series which launched
 Kylie Minogue on the road to fame (r)
7.00 *Channel Four News* with Nicholas Owen and Zenab Badawi
 (Teletext) Weather 7.50 *Comment*
8.00 *Breakfast*. Moreside melodrama (Teletext)
8.30 *My Two Dads*. Laughless US sitcom about a motherless girl with
 two fathers



Fanning the flames of discontent: an Amazonian Indian (8.00pm)

- 9.00** *The "Beverage" Strikes Back: Flames in the Forest*.
 CHOICE: Who knew? British Gas may decide to strike back
 with their environment-friendly television commercial. Now that
 would bring a frisson to Channel 4's programming tonight! British
 Gas are represented as one of the baddies in the first of a new
 series of documentaries about tribal peoples (the goodies) who
 claim that their existence is under threat. *Flames in the Forest*
 gives some Amazonian Indians a platform from which they can
 appeal to the world to do something to prevent the gassing such as
 British Gas and Arco from continuing to rape their forests, pollute
 their rivers, destroy their wild life, and subject them to the back-
 door colonialism which they see as a concomitant of ecological
 destruction. The Indians plead their cause with much passion, and
 the damning evidence they produce shames the shallowness of
 the responses that case provokes from the energy-hungry giants
 E.A.G. Gibeles. Absorbing drama series set in a Canadian news
 station. Roberta discovers a US Congressman is involved with the
 Ku Klux Klan and Antonelli's former wife is hired as a researcher at
 the channel
11.00 *Down Under: A Night Out*. Sensitively-told story (first of a trio of
 Australian films) about a gay relationship which is damaged when
 one partner is beaten up by a gang of thugs
11.55 *Down Under: Swimming*. A gay winning art drama by Belinda
 Chayko about a 12-year-old girl (Michelle Linley) who begins a
 video diary, with tragic consequences
12.00 *Down Under: A Song of Air*. Marilee Bennett's film
 examination of the relationship she had with her father, Sir Arnold
 Bennett GC
12.40 *Komitas*. Don Askarian's drama-documentary about the Armenian
 composer and conductor Komitas who was overcame with grief
 by the Turkish government's massacre of three-quarters of the
 Armenian population in 1915 and ended his life in mental
 institutions (r). Ends at 2.35

TV SCHEDULES

- ANGLIA**
 As London except 2.00pm-2.30pm
 For All 5.10-5.40 *Tell the Truth* 6.25-7.00
Anglia News 8.00-8.30 *Anglia Drama*
 10.40 *The 10.10* 11.00 *Anglia News*
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Shipping alert for voyagers at sea in a sieve

By Robin Young

AN OLD sea salt and a Church of England vicar are at the centre of an international naval alert because the transport department fears they have followed the example of Edward Lear's Jumbies and set out to sea in a sieve.

Orders to detain Jack Lammiman, aged 63, and his crew member, the Rev Paul Birkin, vicar of Egon and Grosmont in North Yorkshire, have been sent to all European ports because Mr Lammiman's boat, a Danish fishing purse seiner built in the 1920s, the Helga Maria, had been declared unsafe. It left port in breach of regulations which forbade it sailing more than five miles from Whitby.

Mr Lammiman and the vicar are not thought to be aiming for those lands "far and few" inhabited by Jumbies whose "heads are green and their hands are blue".

Instead they apparently intend sailing to the edge of the Arctic Circle, recreating a voyage by the Whitey whaling captain William Scoresby to celebrate Captain Scoresby's bicentenary. Heralded as a bold adventure, braving ice floes, polar bears and killer



On his way to the Arctic Circle: Captain Jack Lammiman and his purse seiner Helga Maria by the quayside at Whitby

whales, it involved years of planning, and originally had the support of the North Eastern Co-op, which agreed to give provisions.

The Co-op pulled out after the trip ran into opposition from the transport department, which said yesterday: "Mr Lammiman has breached detention regulations. The

boat left harbour some time ago and just sailed off. We don't know where he is now. We just know he is heading for the Arctic and was last seen making towards a Norwegian island. We are considering legal action when he returns."

The Helga Maria has been put on a watch list which makes it liable to be

detained at the ports of 14 countries. All shipping has been asked to look out for Mr Lammiman, a bearded seaman with a passing likeness to Captain Birdseye, though outside British waters the Royal Navy has no power to stop him.

Mr Birkin, a father of two, had offered to join the trip as a medic and is believed to be

aboard. Tom Hutton, a church warden, said yesterday: "The vicar talked about the voyage for some time and I believe he is on it. He's been away for over a week; I don't know when he'll be back."

Mr Lammiman is believed to have left Whitby at least 10 days ago. Tyne-Tees coastguard said: "We were asked to

look out for the boat, but have not seen her. Last week she was somewhere off Shetland. As far as I'm aware, she's on her way to the Arctic Circle."

"In spite of all their friends could say, On a winter's morn, on a stormy day, In a sieve they went to sea."

New York relishes fall of a king

Continued from page 1

reported to have installed a refrigerator to keep her perfumes suitably chilled in her two-storey bathroom. Mrs Gutfreund also raised some Parisian eyebrows when she installed a one-million dollar underground garage on her recently acquired 18th century pied-a-terre on the Left Bank.

In a typical quip yesterday, *Newsday* defined Mrs Gutfreund as the person who "practically invented the 80s

practice of taking the limo to gym class". The *New York Times* noted, more soberly, that Mr Gutfreund's metamorphosis into "starry-eyed arriviste... was often blamed on the aspirations of his glamorous second wife."

Beyond the social excesses, Mr Gutfreund made enemies with his alleged indifference to the plight of sacked employees. The portrait was darkened by *Liar's Poker*, the best-seller by Michael Lewis, a former

Salomon trader, about the frenzied warfare of the take-over days.

The book describes one scene in which Mr Gutfreund was said to have challenged one of his executives to one million-dollar hand of liar's poker using the serial numbers on dollar bills. Mr Gutfreund was said to have walked away when the executive raised the stake to \$10 million.

Amid the gloating by Mr Gutfreund's enemies, out-of-work traders and the unwashed masses, The *New York Times* noted the grace with which Mr Gutfreund had accepted responsibility for his firm's actions, a path contrary to the record of most other fallen financiers. He began working life as a trainee in the firm's statistics department. Had scandal not enveloped the firm, it said, "Mr Gutfreund was close to the point where he could have retired gracefully secure in the knowledge that he had restored it to stability."

Salomon barred, page 19

Lloyd's prepared for exodus

Continued from page 1

about £10 billion is the current market favourite.

Many at Lloyd's welcome the projected falls in membership and capacity, as a necessary condition for a return to profitable underwriting after the disastrous years of 1988 to 1990. A leading Lloyd's figure said: "We are braced for 6,000 or 7,000 resignations. I do not regard that as unexpected, untoward or a matter of concern. However, it will pose a major PR problem for Lloyd's as a whole. But I am very happy that supply and demand are coming back into balance."

Lloyd's has operated at well below capacity since 1988, when only about half the underwriting capacity was used. Mr Coleridge has said that it may be short of capacity when the long-awaited upturn in the insurance cycle gets under way next year.

Names who have decided to stay in Lloyd's are demanding that they be placed on the higher quality syndicates, and there are fears that some less

well regarded syndicates, especially those with exposure to American long tail business, will face severe reductions in capacity.

Charles Sturge, editor of *Lloyd's League Tables*, said: "My impression is that there is a bit of a bloodbath going

on. A lot of agents are giving notice on syndicates and there may be some casualties where syndicates do not have enough support to continue."

In the flight to quality, many names may face problems in transferring to highly rated syndicates.

Washer clue to crash

Continued from page 1

than the Pratt and Whitney which were on the Lauda Air jet.

The thrust reverser mechanism on Rolls-Royce jets is controlled by pneumatic pressure rather than hydraulic pressure. It is also impossible for the high-pressure air pipes to become blocked in the same way as the hydraulic pipes.

Even so the FAA - which has been under intense pressure from the American National Transportation Safety Board to stop the use of thrust reversers until the full facts are known - gave a blanket order covering all 767s.

They argued that it had been assumed that even if a valve was damaged it would not cause any serious problems and that it would have been repaired during routine maintenance. "That assumption has now been called into question," the FAA said.

Meanwhile, the investigators are no nearer to establishing why the pilots failed to cope with the thrust reverser problem and apparently did nothing for ten minutes while the aircraft became more and more unstable before flipping onto its back and breaking up in mid-air.

Riviera goes coy to save town blushes

TOPLESS women have become so common on French Riviera beaches that nowadays they turn few male heads. But the mayors of resorts from Cannes to St Tropez are alarmed by a new trend - toplessness is extending from the beachfront to the shops and restaurants.

Michel Mouillot, mayor of Cannes, is offering free T-shirts to girls who offend "decency and morality", while St Tropez's mayor, Alain Spada, says he approves of bare breasts by the sea, if the result is easy on the eye - but emphatically not in town restaurants. He also insists that topless women have "sculptural physiques".

M Spada's campaign is part of a general effort to improve St Tropez's image. His resistance to encroaching concrete and commercialism has pitted him against some of the greatest names in France, from President Mitterrand's nephew to the film star Jean-Paul Belmondo.

"Everything that is graceful is being destroyed," says M Spada, a former army officer and self-styled defender of the last 200 acres of vineyards and 500 acres of forests around the resort still untouched by speculators.

Since his election in 1989, St Tropez's 6,000 residents have become deeply divided over his pugnacious policies. Every villager has a tale to tell. When Olivier Mitterrand, the president's nephew, began a big extension to his luxury villa on the town's outskirts without full planning permission, M Spada ordered the gates sealed by bullfinch.

M Belmondo's plans for his sprawling estate above the resort were also thwarted. "M Belmondo is a gentleman. I play football with him," the mayor said. "He wants to construct a tennis court on wooded land. Should he be allowed to? No. I am sorry, M Belmondo, the law is equal for everyone."

The view from the helicopter to Nice confirms that St Tropez, while heavily built up, is doing better in the battle against concrete than such neighbours as Cannes. M Mouillot seems to have given up the planning battle: instead he is trying to keep over-



exposed flesh off his streets. Under a local law, tourists who wander in swimsuits along La Croisette promenade face a fine of 75 francs (£7.50).

In St Tropez, M Spada listens patiently to those who worry about decency, including Brigitte Bardot, the animal rights campaigner and former film star. She declared recently here that "feminism, exhibitionism, vice and homosexuality have become the sad and degrading symbols of St Tropez."

M Spada agrees that the authorities must be vigilant. But other problems are pressing. "It's not Sodom and Gomorrah here," he told Mlle Bardot. "Women bare their breasts on the beach or in a boat," one female aide to M Spada added, "but sitting down topless to eat at a table is out."

Johnny Hallyday, the veteran singer, laments new traffic rules stopping him charging round St Tropez on his Harley Davidson. "The mayor has done everything to smash the town's image," he told the newspaper *Le Provençal*. "It used to be a place where certain people came to be seen, and where rich people loved to come to mix with them. A crowd of holidaymakers came to watch the show."

Today many of the world's rich and famous prefer to stay in their villas rather than flaunt themselves in public. Beautiful girls still cram into smart night spots such as the Caves du Roy, but fewer are likely to fulfil their dream of meeting a wealthy star with a Ferrari.

Restaurateurs who believe star-gazing is vital for trade are up in arms. But the mayor accuses them of cash register mentality. An appeal to traders to put an end to rudeness and poor service brought a disappointing response. "That just shows how much needs to be done in St Tropez," M Spada says.

JOHN PHILLIPS

Leading article, page 13

Union law showdown expected at TUC

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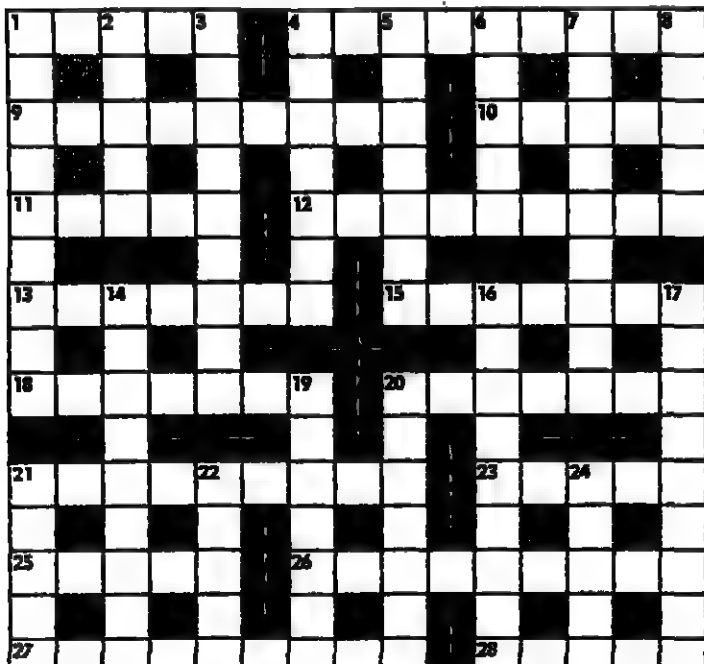
Union law showdown expected at TUC

TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

Safari, so good: Liz Smith follows the trail of the bush jacket and discovers that classic American action-wear outfits by Willis & Geiger are still de rigueur for Hollywood's great white hunters. But British firms, too, she says, have the outdoor fashion market in their sights.

Passing verdict: How effective are British advocates? Robert J. Marneau, a distinguished research professor of law at Cincinnati university, goes to the Court of Appeal and finds our leading lawyers seriously wanting. A disturbing number of barristers, he says, are incapable of mastering even the basics of public speaking.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,688



WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

DICKENSIANS

GRIP

a. A Bow Street Sergeant

b. A ruthless sinner

c. An ancient raven

BOLDWIG

a. A ferocious landowner

b. A barstier

c. Proprietor of an almshouse

NED

a. A turnkey at the Fleet Prison

b. A put-up donkey

c. A chimney sweep

WHIFFERS

a. An impoverished student

b. A naughty footman

c. A boy at Docheboys Hall

Answers on page 16, column 1

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

LONDON & SE

C. London (within M & S C)...

M-ways/roads M4-M11...

M-ways/roads M1-Dartford...

M-ways/roads M23-M4...

M25 London Orbital only...

National

National motorways...

West Country...

Wales...

Midlands...

East Anglia...

North-west England...

North-east England...

Scotland...

North Ireland...

South Ireland...

Yugoslavia...

AA Roadwatch is charged at 34p per minute (cheaper rates) and 45p per minute at all other times.

Concise Crossword, page 15

WEATHER

Southern Britain will have a cold start in places, but will stay dry with bright or sunny spells. The Midlands, Wales and northern England will be cloudy or overcast, with light rain, mostly in western parts. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be cloudy with outbreaks of mostly light rain. Outlook: England and Wales mostly dry with bright or sunny spells. Northern Ireland and Scotland unsettled with periods of rain.

NORTHERN IRELAND AND SCOTLAND: AUSTRIAN WITH PERIODS OF RAIN							
MIDDAY				EVENING			
MIDDAY: between: delicate: from: sun:							
				Sun Path Mex			

● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 19-22
● EDUCATION 24,25
● SPORT 29-34

Union law showdown expected at TUC

CALLS for the repeal of Conservative employment laws will cause a showdown between Britain's biggest unions at the Trades Union Congress in Glasgow next month.

The Amalgamated Engineering Union will head an attempt to soften Transport and General Workers' Union proposals for a new broad approach to employment law.

Support from congress for the T&G motion would be politically damaging for the Labour party, Mr Kinnock and his shadow cabinet colleagues have worked hard to persuade voters they are partners with the TUC rather than its pawns.

The T&G motion calls for "the repeal of all anti-union legislation and replacement with a new framework which would give trade unions the ability to carry out their proper functions". In particular, the T&G seeks a legal right for workers to join a union, and for unions to strike and carry out collective bargaining.

The National Union of Mineworkers goes further. It has proposed an amendment demanding that the Labour party "repeal the 1990 Employment Act immediately on taking office and to repeal all other anti-trade union legislation introduced by the Tories since 1979".

The AEU, however, has tabled a series of amendments designed to soften both the substance and the tone of the hard-liners' proposals.

Most significant is the AEU call for repeal to be followed by "a new law based on the Labour party proposals". Implicit in its wording would be the retention of the law requiring secret ballots for strikes.

Tokyo brokers 'face prison'

Japanese brokers said their clients who ignore tighter curbs on improper compensation for investment losses face jail, according to Japanese newspaper reports.

The finance ministry declined to comment on reports in the *Nihon Keizai Shimbun* and the *Asahi Shimbun* that said the draft legislation included a penalty of up to one year's imprisonment or a fine of up to ¥1 million (£4,382) for brokerage officials doing out compensation. Corporations and other recipients would face up to six months in jail or a fine of up to ¥500,000.

Boost for savings

Index-linked savings certificates boosted the inflow to National Savings last month. Receipts of £152.5 million outstripped repayments of £60 million. Government funding received £97.6 million from the department. When accrued interest is added the net addition to funding is £265.9 million.

The new children's bonus bond attracted 35,000 investors making an average investment of £444, a total of £15.2 million. The amount invested in National Savings at the end of July went up to £37.4 billion.

Pakistan BCCI offers to buy

Employees of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International in Pakistan have offered to buy its operations in the country.

An employees' statement said that with the support of the bank's Pakistani customers, a takeover bid can be structured that would be "far superior and beneficial" to a proposal from Abu Dhabi.

(Reuters)

THE POUND

CHANGE ON WEEK
US dollar 1.6620 (-0.0345)
German mark 2.9268 (-0.0013)
Exchange index 90.3 (-0.5)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
2041.9 (+36.4)
FT-SE 100
2621.0 (+50.4)
New York Dow Jones
2968.02 (-28.18)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
22814.37 (-620.25)

Worst of slump in retail sales may now be over, says CBI

By ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE slide in sales that caused the most thorough shakeout among Britain's shopkeepers for a decade seems to have halted. In spite of miserable weather and weak consumer confidence, retail sales last month were little worse than a year ago.

Evidence of a levelling out in the downturn is provided by the distributive trades survey carried out by the Confederation of British Industry, published today. Dr Andrew Sentance, CBI director of economic affairs, said: "The worst of the fall in retail sales may now be behind us."

The CBI findings are expected to be confirmed today by provisional retail sales figures for July from the government's

Central Statistical Office. Anecdotal accounts from retailers reinforce survey evidence that high street sales are now "bumping along the bottom".

Andrew Curry, the trading director of London Electricity, runs more than 60 stores selling electrical goods in the South-east, where consumers have been particularly hard hit by high interest rates. He said: "Year-on-year, we have had an increase in sales, albeit a small one. Some other retailers must be in the same boat."

Until now, only supermarkets have seemed immune to the prolonged recession in the high street. Increased emphasis on higher value products, such as ready meals, enabled them to buck the trend.

But early and prolonged summer sales

and discounting by retailers of clothing and durable goods do appear to have persuaded consumers to spend some of the cash gained from lower mortgage and interest rates.

"If I advertise something at 20 per cent off, people will come pouring through the doors," said Malcolm Parkinson, chief executive of The Garden Centre, which runs Britain's largest chain of garden centres.

Bargain hunting has become the driving force of shoppers, he concludes. In the absence of special offers, consumers are inclined to save their spare cash. Confidence among middle class consumers in the South remains especially weak, he said.

Yet even the slide in sales of white goods, such as cookers, fridges and washing machines, seems to have steadied. Al-

though down 9 per cent during the first seven months of the year, deliveries of white goods last month were only 1 per cent lower than the same period a year ago, according to the Association of Manufacturers of Domestic Electrical Appliances.

Deliveries of microwave ovens, which are excluded from those figures, rose sharply last month to a level 32 per cent above the same month last year. Overall, consumers appear quite willing, and able, to spend on new products, but reluctant to update expensive items of domestic electrical equipment unless they have to.

But Britain's motor manufacturers and dealers have had some success in using discounting to lure the bargain hunters. "Motor traders, who have seen sales

volumes down, year-on-year, for over two years now, report that business improved a little in July," said Dr Sentance.

The CBI's survey, covering 15,000 retail and wholesale outlets, found managers expect sales this month to show a slight improvement over last year. Volumes, however, remain poor for the time of year.

The levelling out comes after a prolonged downturn in the high street, but the impact has as much to do with retailers' past excessive expectations of growth as with the scale of the downturn. In June, the CBI's index recorded the volume of retail sales at 120, or 20 per cent higher than in 1985, and 0.5 per cent lower than the same month of last year. A "same again" result might well be grounds for good cheer.

US Treasury lifts suspension as firm's top managers stand down

Salomon chiefs resign after bond scandal

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

SALOMON Brothers, one of the most powerful traders on Wall Street, last night accepted the resignations of its two most senior executives John Gutfreund, chairman and chief executive, and Thomas Strauss, the president.

The two men tendered their resignations at an emergency board meeting after the recent disclosures of illegal activities in the US treasury bond market.

Earlier in the day the US Treasury said that Salomon Brothers would be suspended from bidding in US treasury bond auctions until the firm "takes appropriate steps to correct irregular business practices". After the departures of Mr Gutfreund and Mr Strauss, the Treasury reversed its suspension.

In the biggest management upheaval in its 81-year history, Salomon also confirmed the appointment of Warren Buffett as chief operating officer on a temporary basis. "I don't know what interim means," said Mr Buffett last night. "I don't know how long it will take to get this job done. My job is to clean up the sins of the past."

"For what I have learned so far there were a handful of incidents that could have led to trouble but the aggressive culture of the firm contributed to that," he added.

Mr Buffett is a Salomon director whose Berkshire Hathaway investment conglomerate spent \$700 million on 13 per cent of Salomon in 1987 to save it from Ronald Perleman, the corporate raider, and his Revlon Group.

Further departures emerged after the board meeting. John Meriwether, vice chairman of Salomon, also offered his resignation which was accepted. Salomon also said it had dismissed Paul Mozer and Tom Murphy, the managing directors.

Salomon said that Deryck Maughan, a British-born former United Kingdom Treasury official has been appointed as chief executive. Mr Maughan is a vice chairman

who has recently been promoted to take charge of the firm's investment banking operations after a successful spell in Tokyo. It is understood he flew to New York from London on Friday night.

Salomon has stunned the financial community in the past ten days with two revelations that effectively admit to an attempt to corner the market in US treasury bonds to control prices. It is one of the three biggest players in the market.

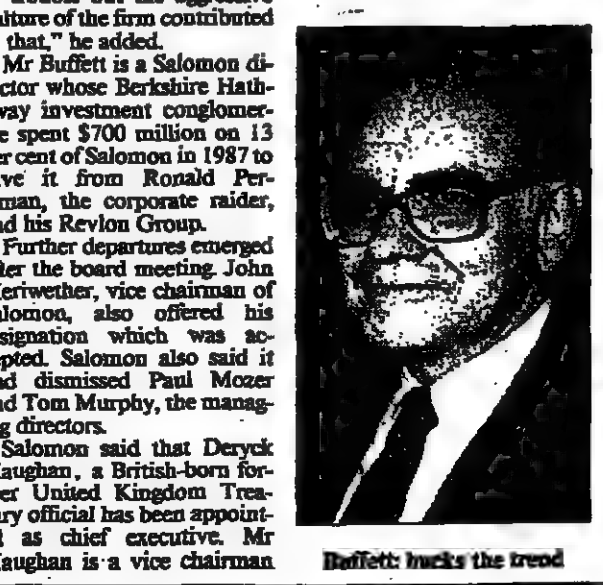
In its earlier notice of suspension, the US Treasury Department added that a resumption of Salomon's role in auctions also depended on the results of ongoing enquiries into its practices. But the action does not affect the firm's status as a primary dealer, which the Federal Reserve Bank of New York hinted on Friday was under review.

Mr Gutfreund, aged 61, has been with Salomon 38 years, chairman since 1978, and was once dubbed the "King of Wall Street". His personal stake is worth \$27.5 million and last year he earned \$3.5



Act of abdication: John Gutfreund arrives at Salomon Brothers' offices yesterday

The shy legend with a taste for hamburgers and quality



Buffett: backs the trend

WARREN Buffett's management and investment style are unlikely to sit easily with the aggressive shoot-from-the-hip prowess that has been encouraged as the culture of choice at Salomon.

Mr Buffett, aged 60, shuns publicity but his long-term approach to investment strategy has become legendary in America. He takes an annual salary of \$100,000 and has scored what he has described as Wall Street's blindest to value in its blinkered pursuit of performance.

Any short-term share price fall at Salomon is unlikely to worry the man who admits he loves McDonald's hamburgers and Cherry Coke, bought his first investment book when he was five and owned

his first share at eight. In the past ten years he has honed a strategy that ran counter to the popular quick-buck corporate raiders of the Eighties.

The stake in Salomon's preferred shares gives Berkshire Hathaway, his New York-quoted investment vehicle, the right to buy 13 per cent of the ordinary shares at \$38, or 36 per cent above their current level. Mr Buffett contends that people will pay for quality. Berkshire Hathaway shares are the most expensive on Wall Street. One share costs \$8,825.

Other investments include a 7 per cent stake in Coca-Cola, and 17 per cent of the Washington Post. He has just gained SEC approval to double his stake in Wells Fargo, the California bank, to 22 per cent.

Rubin case baffles the regulators

By JON ASHWORTH

THE mysterious case of David Rubin, the rabbi's son who has disappeared with an estimated £60 million, is turning into one of the biggest embarrassments ever for Britain's financial regulators. No one seems to know what Mr Rubin did, how he operated, or what he invested in. What is known is that investors have lost a huge amount of money, and the regulators who were set up to protect them are powerless to do anything about it.

DM Rubin & Associates, which traded from offices in Golders Green, north London, does not appear to have been registered with any regulatory body. If Mr Rubin was conducting investment business, legally or illegally, then this would be a matter for Fimber, the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association, or for the Securities and Investments Board. Ultimately, the buck would stop with the Department of Trade and Industry.

If illegal deposit taking was involved, then the case becomes a matter for the Bank of England and the police. This gives the other financial regulators a convenient excuse to refer questions to

the Bank and wash their hands of the matter. And since the Bank has made no progress on the case whatsoever, investors are left with nowhere to turn.

The loophole in investor protection remains, and financial regulators admit they are powerless to change it. Unless a financial adviser seeks authorisation for his activities, and unless his clients, if unhappy, notify the authorities, there is absolutely nothing they can do about it.

Mr Rubin, aged 45, disappeared more than three weeks ago and is believed to be abroad. In a telephone interview with *The Jewish Chronicle* he claimed he was "penniless" and said an abortive £2.4 million trading deal with Zaire had triggered his downfall.

One of the problems with the Rubin case is that it involves the ultra-orthodox Jewish Hassidic community. Its members believe in meeting out their own justice, and would not dream of calling in the police or other authorities to help out. Because of this secrecy, investigations into the affair have ground to a halt.

Mr Rubin's father, the Rabbi of Sasso, is a revered figure in the

Hassidic community. The community has closed ranks, protecting its own, and hence frustrating attempts by financial regulators or the police to find out more.

The trend was broken last week when two New York businessmen obtained a court order to prevent funds being transferred to an account in Switzerland. In Britain, complainants have yet to come forward.

Investors are believed to have lost £15 million by dealing with unauthorised advisers or agents since the Financial Services Act came into force in April 1988. Almost all of it is irrecoverable and none of it is covered by the investors' compensation scheme.

Six hundred cases of possible unauthorised investment business were reported to the SIB in the three years to April, when the latest annual report was published. Six individuals were convicted and imprisoned in that period.

John Redwood, minister for corporate affairs, has said regulators should protect the public from the most obvious financial abuses. Mr Rubin's activities were far from obvious. And the affair is unlikely to be the last of its kind.

M&S plans to review American operations

By MARTIN WALLER

RICHARD Greenbury, chairman of Marks and Spencer, will shortly cross the Atlantic to review the future of the group's perennially underperforming businesses in North America, including Brooks Brothers, the prestige menswear retailer.

M&S has already moved to strengthen the management at Brooks, for which Mr Greenbury, in one of his first statements as chairman, admitted the group had paid too high a price. Paul Smith, a main board director, will look after the North American businesses and sit on the Brooks board.

Middle management appointments have been made in America from M&S's London headquarters, but the British retailer is now thought to be planning an even more hands-on approach, with the possibility of disposals not ruled out.

M&S yesterday refused to confirm Mr Greenbury's movements "for security reasons", but he is known to be planning the trip and has also accepted that sweeping changes may be necessary in America as the group concentrates its expansion plans on Europe.

M&S said: "Mr Greenbury, at the year-end conference in May, and at the end of July, made it very clear we would have to grasp the nettle when it comes to Canada."

In the last full year, profits from Brooks halved to just \$11 million on sales of \$300 million and there was little real improvement at the loss-making Canadian operations.

THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN

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Mountleigh will know result of issue today

By MATTHEW BOND

BY THE middle of this afternoon, the board of Mountleigh, the debt-laden property group, will know how successful its controversial rights issue has been. The final deadline by which shareholders have to pay for their rights issue entitlement is 3pm. UBS Phillips & Drew, which has underwritten the offer, is not expecting a rush.

But with the issue fully underwritten and the £96 million of new money apparently secured, the first priority of the company's top management will be to put last week's public censure by the London Stock Exchange behind them. Friday's strongly worded statement rejecting the Stock Exchange's criticism is unlikely to be their last word on the subject.

The Stock Exchange censured Nelson Peltz and Peter May, chairman and joint managing director of Mountleigh, for the manner in which they sold an 11.3 per cent stake in the company to a Gordon Gerty family trust less than seven weeks before the company's results were published and while the pair were in possession of privileged information as to the true state of Mountleigh's finances. Clive Strowger, Mountleigh's chief executive and a former member of the Stock Exchange panel, was also criticised for approving the share sale.

Most observers are expecting Mountleigh's institutional shareholders to shun the issue, which would enable Mr Peltz and Mr May to tighten their control of the company. Acting in concert with the Gordon Gerty trust, Mr Peltz and Mr May are expected to take their stake up to 29 per cent through their sub-underwriting commitments.

Their concert party is sub-underwriting the first 12.5 per cent of the new shares. The next 36 per cent is sub-underwritten by HEI, a Bahamas-registered partnership used by members of the Pritzker family, and by Accumulator, a Danish property company run by Klaus Pedersen. Assuming their full underwriting commitment is required, HEI will emerge with 13.3 per cent of Mountleigh and Accumulator with 5.2 per cent.

The two new shareholders were brought in specially to support the rights issue but are not deemed to be acting in concert. Nevertheless, assuming the rights issue has met with the lukewarm response most observers have forecast, the underwriting structure means that up to 47.5 per cent of the company will be in what Mr Peltz and Mr May might regard as friendly hands.

Farmers Insurance braced to count cost of refund ruling

By PHILIP ROBINSON AND NEIL BENNETT

FARMERS Insurance, BAT Industries' Californian insurance group, is bracing itself for the results of a ruling by state regulators that could cost the industry \$2.5 billion.

John Garamendi, the California insurance commissioner, has told the state's 4,000 insurance companies that they must offer refunds to 20 million policyholders as a result of insurance reforms known as proposition 103

which passed into law three years ago.

He estimates the cost to the industry at \$2.5 billion. A spokesman for Farmers said: "We don't know what demands are going to be made on us yet. We have always argued we do not think we will have to offer refunds because it can be shown we have not made an excessive rate of return on our policies."

Mr Garamendi has esti-

mated that each policyholder will receive an average refund of about \$100. Farmers has about three and a half million policyholders who could be affected.

"It would be wrong to extrapolate that our exposure is \$350 million," the Farmers spokesman said. "It could be nothing."

Farmers has raised the cost of car insurance twice since the reforms were passed. In 1990, premiums rose 5.3 per cent and this year they went up 6.5 per cent.

The state commissioner is expected to issue payment notices within the next month. But some companies have already pledged to fight the move through the courts.

"We are not part of any joint litigation," said the spokesman for Farmers. "Furthermore I think that it would be premature to comment on the situation until we have seen the official notification." As part of his reforms, Mr Garamendi has told insurers that he would consider any annual rate of return above 10 per cent excessive.

Mr Garamendi has called for executive salaries to be based on a standard executive search formula and says that insurers may no longer offset the cost of political donations and lobbying against their profits.

He said that over the past ten years, some insurance companies had earned excessive profits, gaining up to triple the rate of return that he is now demanding.

And he said the executive pay ceiling is necessary to ensure that "excessive bloated bigwig salaries will not come out of the pockets of policyholders."

Shares in BAT Industries fell 5p to 742p in London on Friday when news of the payments broke.

Brokers' analysts estimate that Farmers controls 13 per cent of the Californian motor insurance market, and earns 28 per cent of its premium income from the sector, or \$1.76 billion last year.

Most other British composite insurers have been steadily reducing their exposure to the Californian insurance market in recent years as a result of the heavy regulatory pressures.

Royal Insurance, for example, wrote premiums of only \$16 million on motor policies in the state last year. Royal feels that it will be little affected by the implementation of Proposal 103.

Carpetland sold in £12m buyout

By MARTIN WALLER

ERNST & Young, administrative receiver of the collapsed Lowndes Queensway furniture retailer, will today announce a £12 million management buyout at the Carpetland business.

The buyout is backed by CIN Venture Managers, which takes in the venture capital assets of the British Coal, British Rail and Barclays Bank pension funds.

It includes the 80 carpet stores still trading after heavy rationalisation once Lowndes Queensway went into administrative receivership a year ago, with 230 stores open.

More than a third of the 550 remaining employees are investing between £500 and £5,000 each.

Last autumn, Ernst &

Young and Terry Carter, its partner dealing with the sale of Lowndes Queensway assets, apparently ruled out a buyout, after suggestions that various businesses, including Allied Carpets, part of Asda, were interested. Mr Carter said then that conditions were not favourable for a buyout.

Under the new arrangements, CINVen and the management and employees are between them putting in £9 million and Barclays Bank is providing banking and working capital of £3 million.

The Carpetland chain was reported this year as having a book value of £20 million. Ernst & Young has accepted the price it has raised reflects the impact the recession has had on that sector of retailing.

Institutions face API decision time

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE all-shares bid by NMC Group for API Group, a fellow packaging business, has entered its final week with a counterblast from the bidder over API's "appalling decline" under current management.

The £32 million offer closes on Saturday, and API's fate will be decided this week by the 12 institutions that control 60 per cent of its shares. API has said profits should recover this year and shareholders should hang on for the future.

But NMC said at the weekend that API's profits would have to rise from a forecast £500,000 this financial year to £4 million next year to command the offer price of 144.9p

on the average multiple for packagers.

Norman Gordon, NMC chief executive, said: "Shareholders must choose between the existing board, which has presided over API's appalling decline, and NMC, with its proven management record."

The bid offers institutions a straight choice between the two managements, as there is no cash offer. NMC has made great play of the fact that API has just one full-time board member, the finance director, and has brought Eric Holroyd, aged 64, out of retirement to act as temporary managing director. API is seeking his successor and a new chairman.



'Too many branches and people': Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds

Lloyds chief says Britain has a surfeit of banks

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BRIAN Pitman, the chief executive of Lloyds Bank, has said there will be continuing excess capacity in the banking market in spite of the reorganisation that is occurring throughout the industry.

Mr Pitman said, in an interview, that he saw no immediate solution to the overcompetition within banking in Britain and abroad.

"There is too much capital, too many branches and too many people. These are being diminished, but the process is only halfway through."

Mr Pitman was talking in the wake of Lloyds' interim figures. These showed a 19 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £331 million, due to a rise in bad debt provisions. The results were regarded widely as the best of the banks' results.

Lloyds was the only main clearing bank to increase its dividend in the half year.

Mr Pitman said some of the over-provision of financial service in the high street

would be solved by more building society mergers. He said the number of societies may fall from more than 90 to 50 within three years.

Banks, he insisted, however, would remain cautious about closing branches in Britain for fear of losing market share, even though the change in people's shopping habits and the rise in electronic banking has made many rural branches unprofitable.

"If you make it less convenient for people to bank with you, you will lose business. We have to be sure there is no chance that one of our branches will ever make a proper return before we close it," he said.

This year, Lloyds is planning to close 127 outlets, including 16 of its 2,000 full branches, and has reduced its staff by 4,800 in the first six months.

Mr Pitman said that banking was becoming the commodity business that Lloyds had predicted several years

ago. "We started then to look at how we could differentiate ourselves from our rivals and we decided we had to become an all-round financial services company," he said. During the last half year, 45 per cent of the group's profits came from Lloyds Abbey Life, the group's life assurance and estate agency associate.

Lloyds believes that banking income will be depressed in Britain for the rest of the year and into next year. "Economic growth will be slow, the high real rate of interest will choke off consumer demand and corporate customers are keen to reduce their bank borrowings."

In spite of this, Mr Pitman said the bank's profits would benefit from a continuing increase in its interest margin. This, he said, came not only from a rise in lending rates but also from the recent surge in deposits. This is reducing Lloyds' reliance on expensive wholesale market funding.

Mr Pitman said that banking was becoming the commodity business that Lloyds had predicted several years ago. "We started then to look at how we could differentiate ourselves from our rivals and we decided we had to become an all-round financial services company," he said. During the last half year, 45 per cent of the group's profits came from Lloyds Abbey Life, the group's life assurance and estate agency associate.

SMALLER COMPANIES

Intercare enjoys a healthy outlook

SHARES in Intercare Group have more than doubled from 43p to 100p this year, reflecting the improved outlook for the medical products group.

In February, Intercare announced a return to profit, earning £504,000 before tax for the year to the end of last October, helped by acquisitions, and in June the company paid a maiden interim dividend of 0.5p a share from earnings of 4.1p.

The company's switch from the now defunct Third Market to the Unlisted Securities Market at the turn of the year improved City perception of its prospects in a healthcare sector that is enjoying the benefit of reforms in the National Health Service, increased emphasis on care in the community and an ageing population.

Acquisitions have also caught the eye. Not least among them is the purchase of 75 per cent of Montis Medical in The Netherlands, announced last week.

Intercare shares rose 16p to 100p after the £3.16 million deal, even though the company issued more than 5 million shares to fund the acquisition and raise working capital. Unusually, the shares have traded comfortably above a placing price of 80p.

Montis distributes a range of healthcare products, mainly in The Netherlands, including the electric vehicles assembled by Booster, a British company acquired by Intercare in April. About 50 per cent of the production of Booster is distributed through Montis, which participates in design changes that are necessary to conform to regulations in European countries where it is sold.

Last year, Montis earned profits of £510,000 before tax, and at year-end had net assets of £480,000.

Montis has forecast profits of £587,000 this year. Further profit-related payments have been agreed. Intercare may pay up to £3 million for the outstanding 25 per cent if targets are met between 1992 and 1995.

In the first half of its current year, Intercare earned profits of £452,000 before tax on turnover of £5.8 million, and analysts believe it is on target for profits of £1.3 million. A full contribution from Montis next year should enhance earnings.

MARTIN BARROW

REPORTING THIS WEEK

ACT payment takes toll of Argos

TODAY

BRITAIN'S leading catalogue showroom retailer, Argos, headed by Mike Smith, the chief executive, and David Donne, the chairman, is likely to report a sharp decline in interim profits, although the full-year results are expected to show an advance.

David Robinson, at Nikko Securities, forecasts first-half pre-tax profits of £10.7 million (£14.9 million). Market forecasts range from £9 million to £12 million. Mr Robinson says that the decrease has been well flagged and is partly due to the one-off payment of advance corporation tax (ACT), which will depress interest receivable.

The unseasonal summer weather is likely to have contributed to a slowing in first-half sales, with a 4.5 per cent like-for-like decline predicted, compared with growth of 9.1 per cent last time.

The company's balance sheet is in good shape, with year-end net cash forecast at about £204 million (£151 million). Dr Smith is expected to be fairly upbeat about prospects.

News is awaited on Argos's diversification into furniture retailing, with some information on management restructuring. With the bulk of profits



Upbeat about prospects: Mike Smith (left) and David Donne, of Argos

earned in the second half - accounting for about 80 per cent of the total - Mr Robinson forecasts full-year pre-tax profits of £77.3 million (£75.1 million).

Interim: Alliance Trust, Ambit International, Argos, BPP Holdings, EFT Group, Epsom Group, French Property Trust, May & Croft Group. Final: None announced. Economic statistics: CBI/FT survey of distributive trades (July), retail sales (July - provisional), gross domestic product (output-based) (second quarter - preliminary).

TOMORROW

Willis Corroon, the insurance broker that is the product of last October's merger between

Willis Faber and Corroon & Rack, the American retail broker, is expected to announce interim pre-tax profits of £70 million, against last year's pre-tax profits of £75.5 million.

Interim: Associated Fisheries, Cambridge Electronic Industries, City Centre Restaurants, Kerry Group, Free Brothers, Scottish Eastern Investment Trust, Season Holdings, TFI High Income Trust, Willis Corroon. Final: ATP Communications, Gold Fields of South Africa, Pilco Holdings. Economic statistics: Long-term employment (July), finished steel consumption, and stock changes (first quarter), manufacturers' and distributors' stocks (second quarter - provisional), major British banking groups' monthly statement (July), provisional estimates of monetary aggregates (July).

WEDNESDAY

Severe market conditions will have taken their toll of first-half profits at BICC, the cables and construction group.

Balfour Beatty, the British construction subsidiary which accounts for about a fifth of

the group, will have seen difficult trading, with America and Australasia affected by "a very severe set of markets". There is some concern that there could be provisions at Balfour Beatty.

Elsewhere, American cable volumes and prices are down. Adam Page at County NatWest expects interim pre-tax profits to decline by 25 per cent to £75 million (£100.4 million). Earnings per share are forecast to fall by 29 per cent to 15.4p (21.8p), although the interim dividend should be maintained at 6p.

UBS Phillips & Drew believes that NFC, the transport, freight and distribution group formerly known as National Freight Corporation, will report static third-quarter pre-tax profits of £23 million, giving £57 million (£63.5 million) for the first nine months.

Marley, the building materials group, is expected to show interim pre-tax profits of £7.5 million (£16 million), according to County NatWest.

The dividend should be held at 2.1p.

Analysts expect first-half profits at Vichale, the plastic pipes and fittings company, to climb to between £6.2 million and £6.4 million, against £5.5 million last time.

Interim: BICC Group, Dunedin Income Growth Investment Trust, Latin American Investment Trust, Marley, NFC (third quarter), Vichale, Wilkes (James). Final: Impulse Platinum, Jos Holdings, McKay Securities. Economic statistics: Construction - new orders (June - provisional).

THURSDAY

Rentokil Group, the environmental services and property care group, is expected to buck the trend with another healthy advance in first-half profits, thanks to organic growth, acquisitions and some currency benefits. Rentokil, which is headed by Clive Thompson, the chief executive, should receive a boost from Calmic, the provider of hygiene services, which was bought from Wellcome this year for £26.6 million.

Ian John, an analyst at County NatWest, has pencilled in pre-tax profits of £42 million (£34.5 million). Earnings per share are expected to rise to 6.9p (5.56p), with an interim dividend of about 1.3p (1.06p). Market forecasts range from £41 million to £44 million.

Interim: Capital & Counties, Calmic (Holdings), Clarke (T), Lee Refrigeration, Rentokil Group, Richardson Westgarth, Spear (JW) & Sons, Weir Group. Final: Newmark (Louis), Staver, Zigmom. Economic statistics: Balance of payments, current account and overseas trade figures (July).

FRIDAY

Interim: Balfour Beatty, BICC, BPP Holdings, Dawson Group, Iain Connel Group, Torday & Carlisle, Wessanen (Ron) NV. Final: Aerospace Engineering, Waverley Cameron. Economic statistics: CBI monthly trends enquiry (August).

PHILIP PANGALOS

Rally's momentum rests with German slowdown

Few new factors have emerged to influence gilts. The main areas of concern - the timing of the British economic recovery, inflationary pressures, the strength of the German and American economies, funding and the general election - have been occupying the market for some months.

All these features have developed gradually - so gradually, in fact, that implied market volatility (as measured by options on long gilt futures) has fallen to a record low. Despite this, the market has managed to rise by several points from the end-June lows. Can the fundamentals conspire to keep gilt prices moving higher?

At the lowest level, much bad news had been discounted; since then, the government's election prospects have improved a little, while few signs of a strong economic revival have appeared. Also, the market has managed to absorb a steady stream of new issues, including almost £4 billion nominal since the beginning of June. While there are signs of oversupply, exacerbated by last week's £400 million Gefco issue, the market's acceptance of the new paper will have given the authorities hope of meeting this year's funding target.

But the market must continue to digest funding at this rate throughout the year if the government broker rigidly adheres to a full funding policy. Of course, full funding within each year is not a strict requirement. Nevertheless, with a high level of gilt supply needed in the subsequent two years to fund annual PSBRs in excess of £15 billion, the authorities

cannot expect any shortfall this year to be easily made up in following years.

Underfunding might be an attractive option, boosting monetary growth while lightening the funding burden, but as yet does not form part of official government policy. The overseas investor may have to be relied upon to help the funding programme stay on course.

There is a better outlook for gilts as far as the economy is concerned, at least on a one-year horizon. We do not think the long end of the market has any reason to worry that a strong economic recovery will undermine gilt prices.

Continued problems with the corporate and personal sector balance sheets should ensure this is a most disappointing recovery. We expect real GDP to grow by only about 1 per cent next year, a figure so low that the second leg of a "W" type recession would be threatened.

However, inflation is unlikely to continue falling next year and there is a risk of wage settlements rising again once company earnings recover and rises in unemployment moderate. The economy will thus not be the instigator of a long-term strong performance in the gilt market.

In the shorter term, the quarter-point rise in Germany's Lombard rate is expected to leave European bond markets in an uncertain state. By itself, this very small rate rise will not be enough to stand in the way of the next half-point cut in British base rates.

However, there is no guarantee that the Lombard rate has peaked. Although the

German authorities, judging by their limited actions, are not too concerned about the strength of the economy or rising inflationary pressures, fears of a further rate increase may be widespread. This should prevent British base rates falling below 10.5 per cent this year.

We believe the German economy will slow sharply and inflationary pressures will ease in 1992. Interest rate levels and the impact of tax increases should be enough to quell the inflation rise instigated by unification.

his slowdown is critical to the performance of European bonds in general, and necessary for the gilt market to make headway. Without it, the combination of funding pressure and increasing political worries will cause the gilt rally to fail eventually.

With the German slowdown, however, gilts may consolidate. Increased cash flows into bonds throughout Europe should encourage the continuation of the overseas investment in the gilt market that has been evident this year. There will be some inhibitions if the weak British economic recovery gives Labour the upper hand in the run-up to the general election, for many potential investors may be wary of allocating funds to sterling-based instruments.

However, there will be more scope for yields to fall if the Conservatives manage to retake the lead in the polls. In this case, the most optimistic scenario, long yields could fall to about 9 per cent by next summer.

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A parable for Mr Major

ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

It is mid-August. The sun is shining. The Bundesbank has been merciful. Inflation is only 2 per cent above its level when Nigel Lawson became Chancellor. And today I go on holiday. It is the perfect time to tell an old Jewish story.

A poor farmer calls on his rabbi in desperation. "I am a poor man. I used to live happily with my wife and my three children in a one-room hovel. But last month, my wife, God bless her, gave birth to twins. Then my mother-in-law came to stay and she isn't leaving. Rabbi, I cannot sleep. I cannot work. I cannot eat. The family are driving me out of my mind. What can I do?"

"My friend," says the rabbi. "I shall tell you — but only if you promise to do exactly as I say. You have, I suppose, some chickens in the farmyard? Good. Bring them into your house to live with you, and next week come and talk to me again."

The man returns next week. "How is it?" asks the rabbi. "Rabbi, it's worse than before. The chickens fly everywhere. They cluck all night. The children

break their eggs. I cannot stand it another day."

"Very well," says the rabbi. "You have some goats? Bring them into your house to live with the chickens and come back next week." The man returns again, even more desperate. "It's worse than ever. Rabbi, you must do something to help me."

"I have another idea," the rabbi says. "Do you own a cow? Good. Bring her into the house too and tell me next week if this helps you." The poor man returns a week later, completely beside himself. "Rabbi. This can't go on. Tonight I will end my life."

"Wait," says the rabbi. "I have one more idea. Take your chickens, your goats and your cow. Put them back in the farmyard, and come back to me tomorrow." The man returns the next day. "How is it?" asks the rabbi. "Rabbi, today I am the happiest man in the world."

What has all this to do with

economics? A great deal. Consider three topical examples — inflation, German interest rates and recession.

Inflation, we are told, is the one unmitigated success of government economic policy. It is the justification for all the nation's other privations. Above all, the triumph over inflation has vindicated the desperate gamble of tying the pound to the mark at an exchange rate of DM2.95.

The success does appear impressive if one follows the Treasury briefing. Friday's inflation figure of 5.5 per cent was almost exactly half the peak rate of 10.9 per cent last October, the Treasury noted. By October, the mandarins added, inflation will

almost certainly be down to 4 per cent.

Splendid, but should the Treasury not remind us how inflation reached 10.9 per cent last year? Reducing inflation is really a matter of putting the chickens, goats and cows back in the farmyard where they belonged.

Inflation was 3.7 per cent in June 1983 when Mr Lawson became Chancellor. The underlying inflation rate, excluding mortgage interest rates and poll tax, remained below 6 per cent until February 1990. Even in October 1990, this underlying rate was only 8.4 per cent. In other words, the accelerating inflation of the late-Eighties was largely due to the government's own policies of raising the interest rate and poll

tax with no regard to the impact on the RPI and the knock-on effects on wages.

Why did the government do this? The poll tax may have been a one-off political blunder, but the reasons for raising interest rates are all too relevant today. The Treasury was panicked into raising interest rates by crises of confidence in sterling, culminating with Mr Major's elevation to Chancellor in October 1989.

Mr Major's 15 per cent interest rates were imposed to defend an overvalued exchange rate, not to prevent inflation. Far from curbing inflation, the rise in mortgage rates was its main cause.

Excluding the effects of interest rates, VAT and poll tax, inflation today is about 6.8 per cent. A year ago it was 7 per cent and a year before that it was 5.9 per cent. All Mr Major has achieved in the past six months has been to undo his own handiwork.

Now what would the rabbi

make of German interest rate policy? The markets had braced themselves for a half-point rise, so when rates were raised by a mere quarter-point they first breathed a sigh of relief and then concluded that the Bundesbank had "chickened out".

The speculators have forgotten that Germany's rates are already unusually high in relation to its inflationary record and astoundingly high relative to rates in America and Britain. Against this background, even a quarter-point rise in German interest rates should have set off a surge in the mark against both the dollar and sterling. Watch out, this may yet occur.

As for the recession, this is the rabbi's parable in its purest form. The government has pummeled the economy more fiercely and relentlessly than anyone had imagined possible. Sooner or later the bashing will stop. The country will then be expected to sing the government's praises — and perhaps it will.

John Major may not be very good at economics. But, like the rabbi, he may have human nature on his side.

Toll road marks high risk turn for the better in transport policy

Ross Tieman

says Britain's first pay-as-you-go motorway signals a much-needed change of approach

HOW can we finance a solution to Britain's over-burdened and under-financed transport system? Not since the 19th century has infrastructure cried out so sorely for an increased share of national wealth. Roads, rail, the London underground and our air traffic control system are all inadequate.

One solution is to restrict use by making them more expensive. But that does not address the need to keep pace with technological advances and shifting patterns of trade.

Without unacceptable sacrifices elsewhere, it is hard to see how the public purse can redress decades of insufficient and ill-directed investment. Driven by necessity, the government has already begun to seek new ways of funding transport programmes.

The announcement last week of Britain's first toll road for two centuries is one such step.

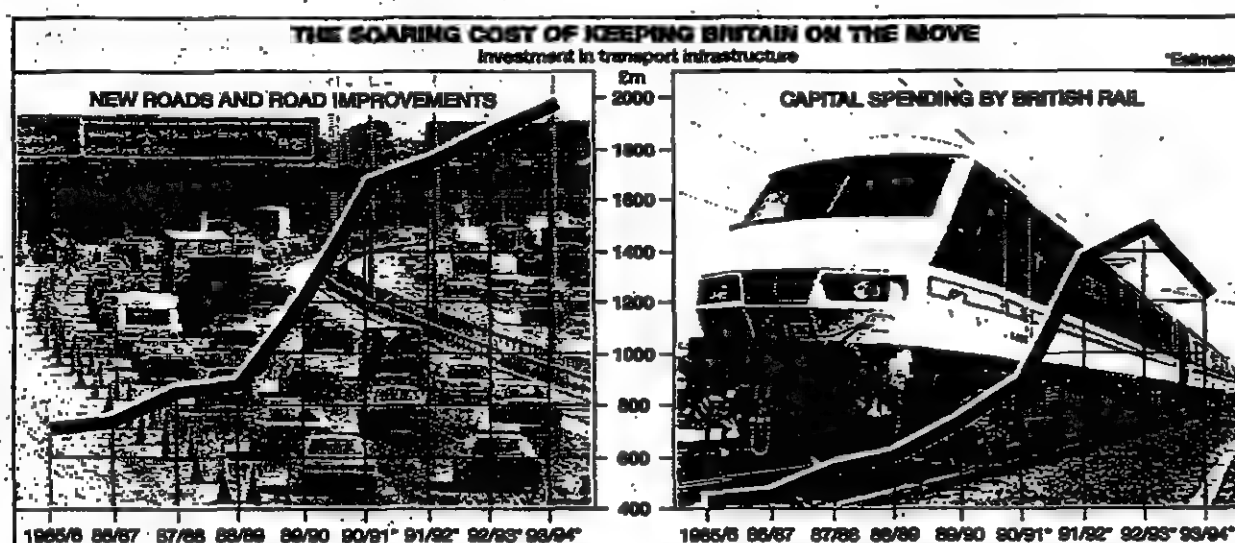
The Birmingham Northern Relief Road will be a 27-mile, three-lane motorway by-passing the section of the M6 through the West Midlands conurbation. Car drivers will pay £1.50, in 1990 prices, to use it and lorries twice that.

The road will be built and operated for 53 years by Midland Expressway, a joint venture between Trafalgar House, the construction and shipping group, and Falstat, the Italian toll motorway group. But the venture faces considerable risks.

Midland Expressway will have to borrow the money to build the road. If the motorway opens on target in 1997, interest costs could lift the total bill to £450 million.

But obtaining planning consent may not be easy. Many Britons find toll roads abhorrent. Objectors may fight more strenuously if they perceive that they are being asked to sacrifice their homes to the pursuit of private profit.

Recovering the outlay may not be straightforward either. The road is expected to carry 50,000 vehicles a day. If a third were lorries, the road



would earn revenue of £100,000 a day. Assuming a similar number of vehicles every day of the year, it would take a minimum of 12.3 years to repay the construction cost, plus interest.

In practice, with inflation edging up the charges, Midland Expressway expects to recover its outlay in about half that period. Thereafter, the road should become a highly profitable cash cow. But projections of traffic flows in the next century are fraught with hazard. Historic trends suggest ever increasing car use. Yet carbon taxes, dearer oil, and who knows what social shifts could cause a hiccup large enough to upset the delicate balance between interest bills and revenue.

These are factors that the banks funding the project will have to think about carefully. So far, at least, they appear to have few worries. Contractors are so confident about their

ability to raise cash that they have shown great interest in transport department suggestions for a Western Orbital route to complete the Birmingham outer ring, a link between the M25 and Chelmsford, Essex, and a second Tamar crossing in Devon. Four less advanced transport department projects are a lower Thames crossing, a new Mersey crossing leading to Liverpool Airport, a short link between the M1 and the A1 in North London, and a link between the M25 and Rayleigh, Essex. A consortium involving industry and local authorities is also advocating a new east coast motorway.

Private spending on the Birmingham road would provide a hefty increment to a public road programme that is already growing quite fast. Yet rail investment will start to fall again in 1993-4, once connections to the Channel tunnel are complete. Transport

infrastructure's appetite for spending cannot be overstated. Too little has been done for too long. To improve business efficiency and quality of life, Britain must solve the problems of urban congestion and reorientate transport patterns to accommodate the emergence of Europe as our main trading partner.

The Channel tunnel is a step in that direction. But the experience of the tunnel provides grim lessons for private transport projects. Euro-tunnel, the Anglo-French group building the link, was almost overwhelmed by runaway costs and the problems of raising finance. Although set to open on schedule in June 1993, the £7.5 billion link will have cost almost twice what was expected. And trains that have crossed France at up to 180 mph will be lucky to travel at half that speed once in Britain.

Sir Alastair Morton, chief executive of Eurotunnel, has become increasingly outspoken about the shortcomings of Britain's transport system. This autumn, he will spell out further his proposals for a pollution tax, imposed on all forms of transport, to fund improved links with Europe.

Sir Alastair believes the "abominable 'No men'" of the Treasury must share the blame with the former prime minister Margaret Thatcher, and several of her predecessors, for Britain's plight.

His solution is a hybrid concept designed to direct a limited flow of tax revenue into private sector schemes. The proposal overcomes the difficulty faced by all such projects: a high capital outlay, and revenues which build only slowly once the link is in use.

Sir Alastair suggests his Transport Investment Fund could help finance a toll road from the M1 to Farnborough, in Suffolk, the Heathrow-Paddington rail link, a rail freight link from the Irish Sea ports to the Humber and Channel tunnel and a high-speed rail line from London to the tunnel. A new air traffic control system would be an obvious addition to the list.

The proposal has the virtue of being financed by a tax on the inconvenience caused to others by those moving around. And it would recoup part of the profit from tolls, enabling the state to share the rewards from private investment in exchange for reducing the risks.

Even if it proves politically acceptable, Sir Alastair's scheme leaves the problems of urban congestion to be addressed. Toll roads and a Transport Investment Fund are useful contributions to the debate. But there is still plenty of room for new ideas.

Morton's £20bn method



Morton: index-linked plan

TRANSPORT systems — road, rail and air — would be awarded an index value according to the amount of noise and fumes they emit, the volume of land they take up, and the accident death and injury they cause, under Sir Alastair Morton's proposal.

The index would form the basis of a new pollution tax paid by vehicle operators. The tax would raise £4 billion a year for five years, rolled up with interest into a Transport Investment Fund managed by an independent board dominated by private sector directors.

Fund investments in private sector schemes would take the form of mezzanine capital,

which would rank ahead of equity, but behind secured debt. Interest would be charged only at the level of inflation until the project was complete. Then the fund would receive fixed interest payments, plus dividends or royalties from the charges to travellers. Once revenues from completed projects started to flow, the fund would become self-perpetuating.

The pollution tax would probably be in addition to existing taxes. It would be likely to bear most heavily upon motorists. Funds would be used to finance projects that improve Britain's connections with Europe.

"Two gentlemen in kilts," grows a disbelieving Millar. "No doubt in the Costa del Sol." Chris Greig, Inver-gordon's managing director, has few good words for Whyte & Mackay, even though he owns 2 million shares in his company and stands to make £5 million if the bid succeeds.

Pizza excess
AMERICAN bankers, known for huge appetites, have surpassed themselves in the quest for food. Gents at Salomons and Goldman Sachs have, it seems, developed a craving for pizzas from a Chelsea chain. Now, fleets of black cabs have been arriving at a branch in the Old Brompton Road at lunch-time, to shuttle pizzas back to the City. "It's phenomenal, most of them spend Saturday afternoon there too," says a regular.

Pain in Spain
WHYTE & Mackay's bid for Invergordon Distillers has sent shock waves through the peaceful Highlands. James Millar, Invergordon chairman, is furious at reports that his company held talks with Whyte & Mackay before the bid and that the American-owned bidders say their hand was forced after a leak via whisky salesmen in Spain.

JON ASHWORTH

CAPITAL MARKETS

GrandMet issue oozes confidence

LAST week's blockbusting \$900 million yankee bond issue from Grand Metropolitan must surely rank as one of the most spectacular capital market launches ever by a British corporation.

The deal oozed confidence. Most foreign companies making their first issue in the American debt markets would content themselves with a modest issue, perhaps \$100 million or \$150 million. Not GrandMet.

The issue, led by Morgan Stanley and co-managed by Goldman Sachs, was the largest by a British company and has been exceeded only by a handful of American corporate borrowers.

Spreads on the three tranches of the deal have remained tight, with the ten-year note and the 20-year debenture widening by a couple of basis points. The launch spread on the five-year note was 70 basis points, on the ten-year note 76 basis points and for the 20-year debenture 92 basis points.

The stability looks all the more impressive when compared with a 30-year yankee launched by Seagram, the

Canadian drinks company, the day before GrandMet's deal. The Seagram deal opened at 87.5 basis points over, but was 40 per cent unused and widened to 105 basis points.

American investors were attracted by GrandMet's impressive international portfolio of brands, many of which, Häagen Dazs and Burger King, for example, are household names. The fact that the owner was a British company slightly complicated the issue, as many American investors have limits on the proportion of assets that can be invested in foreign companies. Hence the triple tranche structure, allowing a broad range of investors. The five-year note was aimed at

university funds, investment advisers and money managers. The ten-year deal appealed to state and corporate pension funds and general insurers, while the 20-year debenture won support from life insurers. At least 100 institutions took up the bonds. The structure also gave the borrower a healthy spread of maturities in its borrowing portfolio.

GrandMet has never been known as a shy and cautious borrower on the capital markets. Its \$6 billion Pillsbury acquisition facility of 1988 was the largest of a slew of similar findings during the deal mania days of the late Eighties and had the added novelty of being arranged in-house. The \$2.5 billion refinancing announced in June also caught the eye for its aggressive margins and fees when the bankers are supposed to be calling the shots. In these days of credit crunches and liquidity crises it is good to see at least one British company that seems to be able to raise huge amounts of capital when and on the terms that it wants.

JONATHAN PRYNN



Akzo nv Registered Office at Arnhem

Report for the 1st half year 1991

Consolidated statement of income		January-June 1991		January-June 1990	
	Millions of guilders	1991		1990	
Net sales		8,535.3		8,899.9	
Operating costs		(7,914.2)		(8,161.3)	
Operating income		621.1		738.6	
Financing charges		(134.9)		(195.1)	
Operating income less financing charges		486.2		543.5	
Taxes		(175.1)		(193.5)	
Earnings of consolidated companies from normal operations, after taxes		311.1		350.0	
Earnings from nonconsolidated companies		39.5		58.1	
Extraordinary items		15.3			
Group income		365.9		410.1	
Minority interest		16.8		(2.7)	
Net income		382.7		407.4	
Net income per common share (in guilders)		8.62		9.17	
Common stock		888.4		888.4	

Sales and income
In the second quarter of 1991 a net income of Hfl 191 million was achieved, compared with Hfl 206 million in the second quarter of 1990.

Operating income of Hfl 324 million was down Hfl 39 million from last year's second quarter. Substantially lower results for chemical products and fibers were partially offset by higher operating income for healthcare products.

Net income for the first half of the year aggregated Hfl 383 million, versus Hfl 407 million in the first half of 1990. Net income per common share for the first half of the year was Hfl 8.62 versus Hfl 9.17 for the same period last year.

Second-quarter sales of Hfl 4.3 billion were at about the same level as last year. A 2% decrease in shipments was offset by on

average 1% higher selling prices and 1% higher translation rates. Sales for the first half of 1991 amounted to Hfl 8.5 billion.

Operating income for the first half of 1991 was Hfl 324 million, this is equivalent to 7.3% of sales, compared with 8.3% in last year's corresponding period. For the second quarter this ratio was 7.5%, versus 8.4% last year.

Outlook
Barring any adverse changes in the economy, we expect that 1991 net income before extraordinary items will slightly lag behind last year's earnings figure, despite moderate expectations for the third quarter.

Arnhem, August 2, 1991
The Board of Management

Sales and operating income by product group break down as follows (in millions of guilders):

	1st half year 1991		1st half year 1990	
Net sales	1991	1990	1991	1990
Chemical products	2,856	2,988	166	234
Fibers	2,310	2,509	93	137
Coatings	1,907	2,061	110	164
Healthcare products	1,496	1,383	251	210
Miscellaneous products and intra-group deliveries	(34)	(41)	1	(6)
Total	8,535	8,900	621	739

Copies of this report may be obtained from the London Paying Agents: Barclays Bank PLC, Stock Exchange Services Department, 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3 AH and Midland Securities Service, Suffolk House, Paying Agency Section, 5 Laurence Pountney Hill, London EC4R 0EU. The report for the 3rd quarter of 1991 will be published on October 31, 1991.

501-588

Second Conquest

ROBERT Conquest, one of the most revered experts on Soviet affairs, and a former adviser to Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan, will be proud of the achievements of his son, Richard, chief economist at the Daiwa Institute of Research (Europe). Richard, himself an expert on Soviet and central European economies, has been appointed to the Independent Treasury Economic Modelling Club (Item) charged with considering international affairs. He takes over from Doug Jones who is the newly-appointed global fixity economic strategist at County NatWest. "I spoke Russian before I could speak English," says Richard, whose father is the author of *Power and Policy in the USSR*, *The Great Terror* and *The Harvest of Sorrow*.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

WHAT'S in a name? Despite the property slump, a firm of estate agents in Newport, Gwent, appears to be thriving under the unlikely name of Crook & Blight.

Incredible bulk
IN TIMES of recession it sometimes pays to take matters into your own hands. The proof is Richard Lee, a 6ft 3in body-builder from Cheam, Surrey, who has set up a protection and security company named, appropriately, Massive Security. Lee, aged 26, and of 18 stone, has been building up his muscles for six years and holds the *Mr South East Britain* and *Mr Titan* titles. "I am determined

to approach this project with the dedication and commitment I put into my body-building," he says ominously.

No business
THE demise of *Business* magazine has left a gap on newsstands, but its ghost lives on. Condé Nastie and Financial Times Group, the joint owners, have written to subscribers, offering a switch to other magazines in the group like *GO* and *Investors Chronicle*. Since *Business* was published monthly and *Investors Chronicle* is weekly, Malcolm Andrew, a private client broker at Sheppard's, thought his luck was in. "It's news to us, but why don't you speak to Condé

Nastie," a surprised employee told him. When he got through, a baffled staffer suggested he put in a call... to *Business*.

SIGN at a Yewil, Somerset greengrocer: "Our new potatoes are in mint condition."

Pain in Spain
WHYTE & Mackay's bid for Invergordon Distillers has sent shock waves through the peaceful Highlands. James Millar, Invergordon chairman, is furious at reports that his company held talks with Whyte & Mackay before the bid and that the American-owned bidders say their hand was forced after a leak via whisky salesmen in Spain.

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- Electronic
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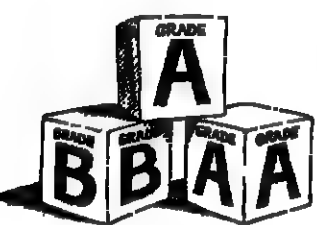
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Pace hots up in the university challenge

Since A-level results came out, students have been phoning a helpline every 30 seconds, reports John O'Leary

Everything is bigger and better about this year's post-A-level scramble. There were more passes, better grades, more higher education places available, more applicants for them, and more advice available than ever before on what to do next.

Most polytechnics and some universities are running their own hotlines for prospective students. There are radio and television programmes, computer databases and private advice services. Many local careers services are also running special advice desks.

Some fortunate applicants will already have received offers of university or polytechnic places. Admissions tutors had the A-level results several days before they were published, and many have been working over the weekend to try to finalise their offers.

Competition for places throughout higher education is going to be intense in the most popular subjects, although universities, polytechnics and colleges are all looking for more candidates this year. The number of applications has been rising steadily for some time. In addition to the larger crop of A-level candidates, extra competition comes from those who took a year off between school and higher education, as



The agony and the ecstasy: how Thames television captured the excitement as students at Reading, Berkshire, opened their exam results

well as the growing number of older applicants. The result has been 30,000 more applications to polytechnics and colleges, and almost 20,000 more to universities.

There were big increases in applications to universities for language and business courses, as well as less obvious areas such as sociology. Only a few subjects, such as accountancy, biochemistry and pharmacy were down on 1990. Keith Clayton, the senior admissions officer at the University

of East Anglia, says that it is impossible to generalise about the chances of obtaining a higher education place this year. "Some subjects are going against the national trend of rising standards," he says. "Every department is dealing with such a small sample that the sort of variations reported nationally make very little difference."

Mike Scott, the deputy chief executive at the Polytechnics and Colleges Admissions System, says that increased competition has

forced up offers by an average of one grade, and worried students were starting to shop around for vacant places even before they had seen their results. "With fewer jobs around because of the recession, I would expect more students to choose to retake A-levels if they fail to find a place, so it could be even more difficult to get in next year," he says.

For those whose results did not match their expectations, this year was bad enough. Before the weekend, calls were coming into BBC

Radio 3's student helpline at the rate of one every 30 seconds. Confidential advice from careers officers and specialists from the National Union of Students will be available all week on 0345 909693.

The clearing process to allocate unfilled places begins this week for universities, polytechnics and colleges. Subscribers to the Campus 2000 electronic information network will have access to the latest course vacancies from Wednesday onwards.

Rupert Steiner, right, felt bad about his exam results but did not despair and found another route to college



Students whose worst fears were realised when they opened the envelope containing their A-level results, need not despair. Something can be done about it.

One option is to re-sit them, either in one term or the following June. This can be done at school or at a local college, but crammers, or tutorial colleges, are specialists at getting students through A-levels.

I performed terribly the first time, passing only government and politics with a D, and failed economics and geography with a U and an N. My parents agreed to spend an amount equivalent to a Volkswagen Golf, so long as I was committed to work. We had interviews at four of the main crammers in London. Most are similar and often have the same tutors travelling between the different colleges. My principal, Peter Boorman, discussed the options with me, and we decided I would benefit from a one-year course, re-sitting geography and replacing economics with business studies.

At school, I did little background reading, and concentrated more on being a prefect. Nevertheless, I believe the quality of teaching is a direct influence on a class's ability. A-levels are not degrees and there should be a fair amount of direct input or "feed-

ing". At the crammer, the tutors concentrate on their one subject which they teach year in, year out, often covering the same topics three times, with different groups, in any one week.

At school, I found teachers were called on to teach various subjects, and never really got to grips with a particular one. Examinations involve a kind of confidence trick: if you believe you can do it, the effects of stress and fear are countered. I found a tutor who inspired an infectious confidence.

There are few restrictions at a crammer. You can wear what you like, and attend only when there is a tutorial. They tend to be small so that you benefit from more individual tuition.

We practised every question several times, which is the key to passing, and became familiar with the style of the papers in the real examination.

The second time I was far more relaxed, and improved my grades — a C in geography and a B in business studies. I am still as amazed as when I first opened the envelope. For me, crammers worked a miracle, and university was well worth the wait.

Rupert Steiner is about to start his final year at Wye College, University of London, reading agricultural economics

The 11-plus examination, which used to represent the gold standard for the younger age group, has been further undermined by research in Northern Ireland.

Although comprehensive schools now predominate in England, several education authorities still use the 11-plus to determine entry to selective secondary schools. In Ulster, where grammar schools thrive, the examination remains the norm for the age group.

The latest research in the province suggests, however, that the growing practice of coaching children for the 11-plus is distorting the results. Extra tuition can double most children's scores and may have a greater influence on marks than ability.

Performance improves so dramatically with constant coaching that it is

questionable whether the verbal and mathematical tests used to select entrants to grammar school are a yardstick for anything other than what training can effect.

A comparison between those who received, and did not receive 11-plus coaching, conducted by Dr Brendan Bunting, an Ulster university psychologist, and Marguerite Egan, another researcher, found that no pupil in the unprepared group would have passed, even those shown by different academic criteria to have ability. The gap in performance between the coached and the uncoached was three times greater

than results from England in the Fifties, confirming the claim that children can be taught to do intelligence tests.

In Dr Bunting's trial, two 11-plus tests, newly issued by the education department in Northern Ireland as specimen papers, were given to two groups in their final year at primary school, a week before the real exam. The first group, 189 pupils from two Belfast schools, had received intensive

coaching for a year. The second, 184 pupils from County Armagh, one of the few areas in Ulster to offer comprehensive education, had been given no coaching.

After the second 11-plus exam, all pupils were assessed on Raven's Progressive Matrices tests, a separate gauge of ability, claimed to be "an index of intellectual capacity, irrespective of acquired knowledge".

The results showed a large disparity in the mean scores of the two groups, with the coached pupils often as much as 40 points ahead of a possible 100. This group also improved its score on the second 11-plus paper, taken a month after the first, while the average score among those who had no coaching dropped by one point.

When the 11-plus scores were set against their measured ability level, pupils of equal intelligence achieved an 11-plus score of 63 when they had been coached, but only 29 if they had not. Similar results were produced in the second test which showed a score of 66

for the coached and again a score of 29 for the uncoached.

The researchers are convinced that coaching achieves effects which are no reflection of ability. "The result might lead one to conclude that results in the 11-plus are a measure of coaching effectiveness," they write. "If this were equal, which it is plainly not, ability might possibly come into play."

The researchers conclude: "This highlights the problem of using 11-plus tests to indicate those who are most likely to benefit from a grammar school education, since the results are to a large extent dependent on coaching. Those who did not receive coaching obtained very poor marks and in no case would one of these students have passed this selection procedure."

CARMEL McQUAID

Another failure for the 11-plus

Research shows that coaching children is distorting the selection procedure to some secondary schools

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مكتبة الامتداد

When dedication is child's play

Japanese children living in Cardiff love going to school at the weekend.
Iola Smith reports

A new school year for a special group of pupils starts in Cardiff next Saturday. Welsh children may still be caking out the last weeks of their holidays, but children from the growing Japanese community are already getting back to work.

The early start is a reflection of the longer periods spent at school in Japan and the amount of learning to be squeezed into a few hours a week. Like thousands of other expatriate Japanese, the 120 Cardiff pupils learn to read, write and speak their native language only on Saturday mornings.

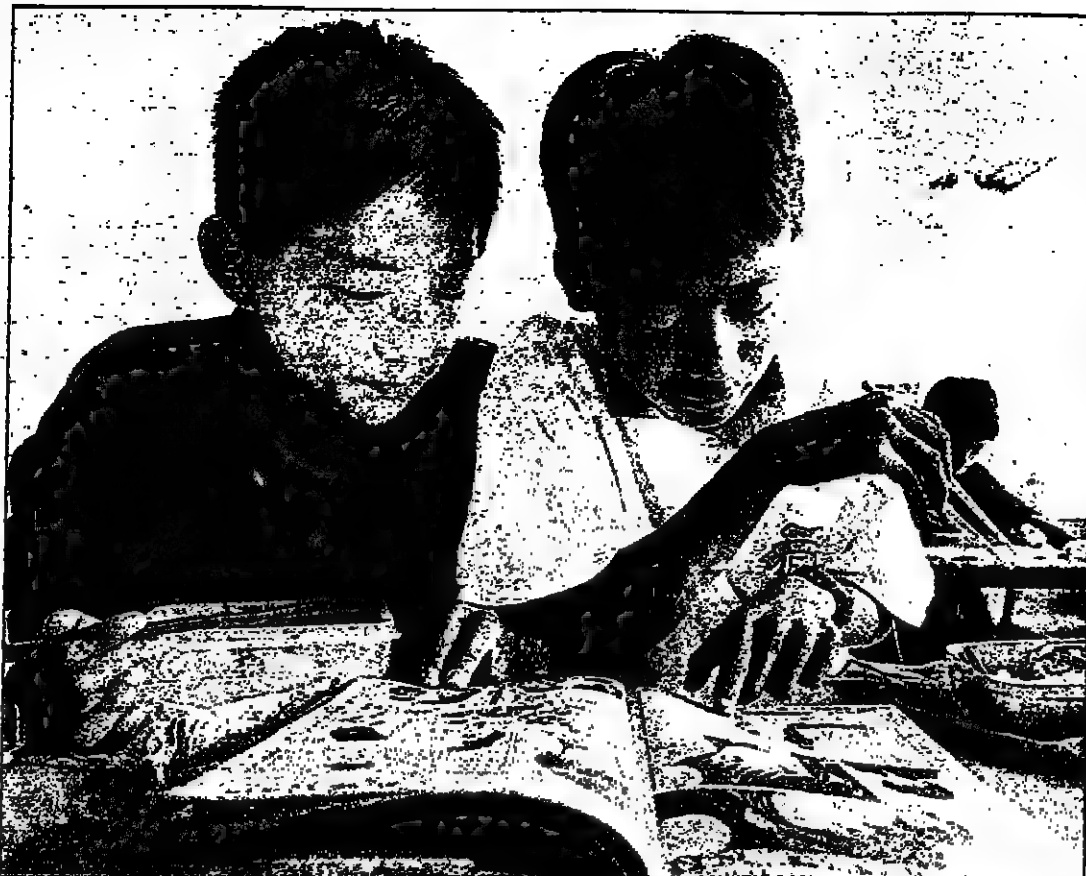
Mastering the 1,500 intricate characters needed to become fluent usually takes nine years. Yet 14-year-old Kanase Matsumoto and her fellow pupils have to perfect their skills in a fraction of that time.

"My father, who works for Alwa, was moved to Gwent two years ago," she explains. "So to keep up with my Japanese and mathematics, I joined the Cardiff Japanese Saturday school. I am glad I did, because I am going home next month. Had I not attended the Cardiff school, I am sure I would find it very difficult to get back into our competitive education system."

Smoothing the return path for Kanase and the other Japanese children, aged six to 16, in south Wales, is the school's intention. Financed by parents, who pay £20 a term, and staffed by 13 qualified teachers, it offers tuition in Japanese language and literature, together with extensive revision in mathematics.

"I find maths easier here than in Japan," Kanase says. "I was amazed when I arrived at Basaleg Comprehensive in Newport that my friends were allowed to use calculators. At home, we have to work everything out in our heads."

The head teacher, Tomoko Boyd, concedes that maths is a problem for some returnees. "It is not taught here at the same frenetic pace as in Japan," she says. "In Britain, our children love the subject and shine in it. But when



Chopsticks and comics: pupils enjoy a break at the Japanese school in Cardiff where they master their intricate language (right)

they return home, they can find that they are way behind their classmates." Despite Britain's mathematical shortcomings and excessively European view of history and geography, Mrs Boyd approves of our relaxed approach to education.

"It is much less of a rat race," she says. "In Japan, pupils can be at school from 7.30 in the morning until 9 at night, moving from day school to a crammer in an attempt to pass their exams. Here children

have time for sport or going to parties. In Japan, it is just school work all the time."

As well as leading the Saturday school, Mrs Boyd teaches GCSE Japanese to fifth-formers in Bristol. She is delighted that Britain is finally adopting a national curriculum. "It is so much easier for children whose parents have to move. Japanese children around the world study the same textbooks. Eight-year-olds in Cardiff, for example, learn the same Japanese characters as their counterparts in Osaka. To ensure uniformity, our texts are produced by the Japanese government."

The Japanese government also takes an interest in training teachers. Next month it will run a three-day course in Cardiff for teachers from the UK's six Japanese Saturday schools. Library books are provided for the Cardiff school by Welsh-based Japanese companies and the Welsh Development Agency. Both groups see the school as one of the reasons Wales is the biggest Japanese manufacturing region in Europe.

Most of the Japanese children integrate easily into the British schools, although Kana Arne, a 16-year-old who has been in Wales for only three months, admits that she finds English difficult. "But I will stick at it so that in two years I can do my GCSEs," she says. "After that, perhaps, I will be able to realise my dream of becoming a Japanese teacher here in Britain."

Although the Japanese pupils have at least two hours of language homework a week and a similar amount of mathematics, some of

the younger ones prefer the Saturday school to their weekday British primary. "I look forward to Saturday because all my friends come and we speak Japanese together," says Hiromi Tada, who is aged eight. "I quite like learning English in the week, but I prefer to speak Japanese."

The opportunity to practise his mother tongue is important to Hiromi. Next year he returns to school in Osaka. "Fitting in should not be hard because I am doing the same poems and reading the same nature stories as they are. But unlike them, I can speak English."

Mrs Boyd says that despite the early start to the new school year, every minute is not spent on academic work. "We have lunch breaks, where the children eat Japanese dishes of fish and rice prepared by their parents, and, once a year, we have sports day and a school trip. This year we shall visit Brecon and Merthyr to see the landscape and wildlife of the Brecons, and to learn a little about the industrial history of the communities in which we live."



JEFFREY F. MORGAN

Cashing in on exams

PARENTS have always been as nervous as their children when public examination results are due, but not because they had money riding on the outcome. Increasingly, however, many now do.

Fred Mycock, of Thornton Cleveleys, in Lancashire, won £200 from a bookmaker after his son Scott achieved the top grades in his four A-levels. The proud father is giving the money to his son, who knew nothing of the bet.

Graham Sharpe, of William Hill, says: "It's back to school for us. We were obviously over-generous to offer 10-1." Mr Sharpe's employer stands to lose even more this week if Sheila Misra, of St Albans, Hertfordshire, manages eight grade As in her GCSE examinations. Her parents staked £30 at odds of 16-1. Betting on examinations is still rare but it may spread. The practice started last year when a parent won £1,000 on his son's A-levels. The boy's headmaster also bet £10 and put half his £200 winnings into school funds.

State success

SOME good news at last for state schools. They may have a poor reputation among the population as a whole, but most parents with children at school are satisfied with their performance.

A Mori poll for the National Consumer Council found that although fewer than 50 per cent of people in England and Wales were satisfied with primary schools, and only 37 per cent with secondary schools, among those with children of primary school age, the rate rose to 70 per cent. Sixty per cent of those with children between 11 and 15 were also satisfied.

Business venture

BIRMINGHAM and Swansea universities are among six European institutions collaborating on a new business qualification. The first students will enrol in the European master of business sciences in October.

In contrast to MBA courses, students will be recruited with A-levels and equivalent qualifi-

ications, graduating after four and a half years. At least one year will be spent with one of the overseas partners.

Calculated risk

TEACHERS in Scotland have been given an official warning about calculators in primary classrooms, but new guidelines on mathematics issued last week stop well short of insisting on a return to traditional methods.

Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, endorsed advice from experts that calculators should not be allowed to provide unnecessary support, or substitute for the development of personal proficiency.

Name game

CHAMPAGNE is on offer to anybody who can solve the dilemma facing Oxford polytechnic as it prepares to change its title to university - a problem facing every polytechnic which shares a city with a university. Clive Booth, the director of Oxford polytechnic, has offered a mugshot for the best suggestion. The only stipulation is that the name must contain the words Oxford and university, says Andrew Smith, the chairman of the governors, and Labour's higher education spokesman. What could be easier?

Actor's new role

CLIFF ROBERTSON, the American film and television actor, repaid a debt to Edinburgh university's centre for continuing education by lec-



ture at the university's film festival summer school. Last winter, he attended classes in Scottish history and literature while visiting Edinburgh. Last week, he agreed to swap roles to give a session on the US film industry, and his career as an actor, writer and director.

JOHN O'LEARY

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Economics, ft (BA), Economics and German, ft (BA)

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European Studies, f/tpt (BA, MA)

Hotel and Catering, f/tpt (HND, HND, BA, Cert), Humanities, f/tpt (BA)

Information Management, ft (Publishing, BA; Business Information Technology - HND, BSc; Library & Information Studies - BA)

Languages, f/tpt (BA Applied, BA Applied Europe, Dip in Translation)

Law, f/tpt (LLB, LLB with French/German/Spanish, Bar Exam, CPE)

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Library and Information Studies, f/tpt (PG Dip/MA)

Management Studies, pt (CMS, DMS, MRA)

Office Communications, Technology & Language/Management, ft (PG Dip)

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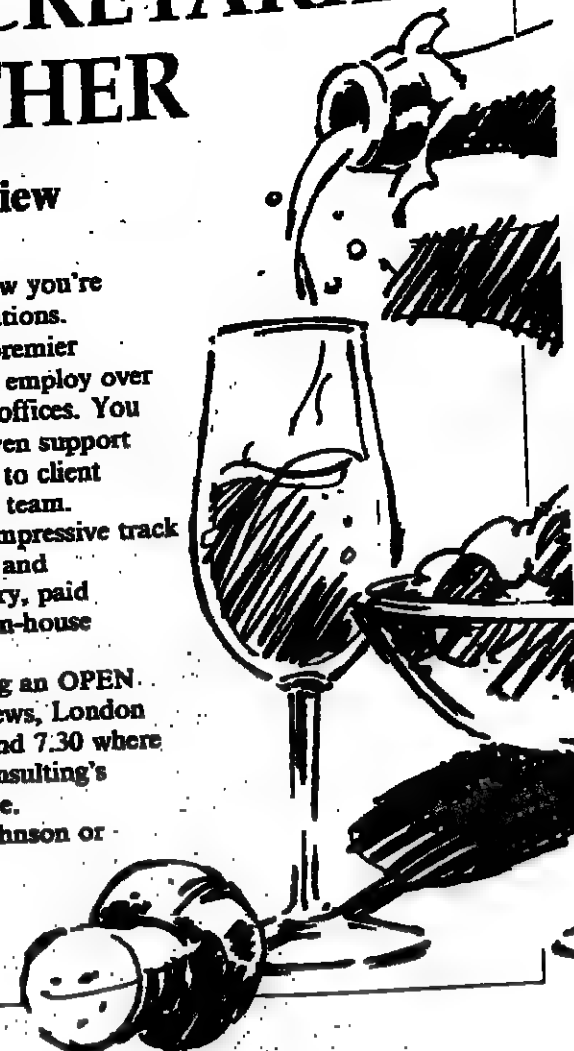
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Survival game: Merson escapes Breyer's boot in his face to shoot Arsenal's equaliser against Rangers

Wing may be answer to prayers

"He's managed to master one phrase — 'No problem,'" said Bryan Robson, who has helped the Soviet player's integration.

[illegible]

هكذا من الأصل

Surprise first Tour win in NM English Open

Gilford's victory stirs up the Ryder Cup pot

By MITCHELL PLATTIS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

DAVID Gilford yesterday virtually secured a place in Europe's team for the Ryder Cup when he won the NM English Open with a final round of 70 on the Brabazon course at The Belfry.

It was all change on the Ryder Cup front as Gilford claimed his first European Tour victory when with an aggregate of 278, ten under par, he finished two strokes ahead of Roger Chapman, who has a closing 71.

Victory earned Gilford, aged 25, a cheque for £75,000 with which he climbed into eighth place in the Ryder Cup points list to leave Sam Torrance in agony for another week.

Torrance has been pushed out of the leading nine who will automatically qualify following the German Open next Sunday. If it remains that way, he will have to rely on Bernard Gallacher, the European captain, selecting him, which is what he would probably do.

The situation could become all the more complicated for Gallacher should José María Olazábal, presently ninth and not playing this week, also be overtaken. There is still hope

Player	Score
1 S Gilford (Sp)	278 (-10)
2 R Chapman (Sp)	280 (-8)
3 J Wainwright (Sp)	281 (-7)
4 I Wainwright (Sp)	282 (-6)
5 J Wainwright (Sp)	283 (-5)
6 D Feherty (Sp)	284 (-4)
7 E Darcy (Sp)	285 (-3)
8 D Gilford (Sp)	286 (-2)
9 J Wainwright (Sp)	287 (-1)
10 S Torrance (Sp)	288 (0)
11 P Broadhurst (Sp)	289 (+1)
12 A Forsyth (Sp)	290 (+2)
13 M McLean (Sp)	291 (+3)
14 J Wainwright (Sp)	292 (+4)
15 J Wainwright (Sp)	293 (+5)
16 J Wainwright (Sp)	294 (+6)
17 M McLean (Sp)	295 (+7)
18 C Preece (Sp)	296 (+8)
19 P Mitchell (Sp)	297 (+9)
20 M Lammie (Sp)	298 (+10)

for any player in the top 22 with a first prize of £87,500 at stake in Dusseldorf.

With Gilford's victory, Gallacher is almost certain to go to Kiawah Island for the match from September 27 to 29 with four first-time Ryder Cup players in Colin Montgomerie, Steven Richardson and David Feherty having qualified.

Gilford, a former Walker Cup player, has not competed as a professional in the United States. "But I have played in the same company as Payne Stewart and Fred Couples," Gilford said. "You think they are superhuman, but the more you play with top players the more you realise they also hit bad shots."

He admitted that he was nervous before starting his final round holding a one-stroke lead over Richardson and Chapman, two over Mark James and three over Severiano Ballesteros and Per-Ulrik Johansson, of Sweden.

Ballesteros, out in 34 to Gilford's 36, lost his momentum and Johansson, out in 37, James (38) and Richardson (38) all lost ground.

Gilford increased his lead with a 30-foot putt for a birdie at the 11th. Ahead of him, Ballesteros hit his tee shot into a bunker at the 12th to take a bogey four. The Spaniard, however, possibly lost his chance when at the tenth, where the tee had been pushed forward by 48 yards to reduce the hole to 253 yards, he refused the chance to go for the green. Instead he played the hole in a conservative manner and emerged with a four.

Chapman holed from 35 feet at the 11th, played a delightful wedge to three feet at the 15th and by coxing in a putt of ten feet at the next, he had his third birdie in six holes. He was in the lead, too, but not destined to win. He dropped shots at each of the last two holes, missing from four feet on the 18th, and for the ninth time he had to accept the runner's-up spot in a PGA European Tour event.

Gilford had holed from nine feet at the 16th for the fourth birdie of possibly the most important round of his career and he had the resolution to make pars at each of the last two holes.

Mark James did not, finishing with a seven and a five, and his hopes of being in the Ryder Cup have surely diminished. He is 22nd in the money list, and if he were to win in Dusseldorf, he could claim ninth place.

Swedish triumph, page 33



Winning look: Gilford on his way to a momentous victory at The Belfry yesterday

Newcastle in split with Sunderland

By PETER BALL

THE Football League's attempt to move on to the attack against the Premier League began yesterday as Newcastle United expressed doubts about proposals from their northeast neighbour, Sunderland, to isolate the 22 breakaway first division clubs.

The second division remains split, with Derby County supporting Sunderland's initiative.

All three are clubs who belong in the first division, historically and indeed in terms of support and commercial potential, and the accession of two of them to the League's cause, with Bob Murray, the Sunderland chairman, in the van, was an encouraging development for the League in response to the resignation of all the first division clubs on Black on Friday.

With the Football Association still refusing to sanction the League, so that Saturday's matches took place without official approval as an exchange of letters proceeded between Lancaster Gate and Lytham St Anne's, six other clubs - Port Vale, Southend United and Grimsby Town from the second division, and Bury, Brentford, Cardiff United and York City of the associate members - have also immediately backed Sunderland's call for the League to be restructured and the premier division to be isolated, with no contact between the two.

Antipodes have hardened considerably since the up-fight clubs' put in their resignations on Friday. Andy Williamson, the Football League assistant secretary, said yesterday: "Clubs outside the first division are now beginning to demonstrate that they are not prepared to be dismissed as by a minority motivated by avarice and self interest."

With the third and fourth

divisions certain to support Sunderland's proposals, it seems as if the League is at last beginning to fight back with some purpose, and that should strengthen the resolve of the second division. But just as the FA insisted on the support of Liverpool before deciding to go ahead with its breakaway league, so Newcastle would be the key club in any serious attempt to set up the Football League as a viable alternative league.

Yesterday Gordon Forbes, their chairman, was less than enthusiastic. "I shall have to speak to Bob [Murray], but there are inherent dangers in his ideas, and anything which would make it out of the question for Newcastle to play the Liverpool again would require very careful thought," Forbes said.

"It is surely the dream of any club to play in the first division or premier league and I feel that by pulling up the drawbridge and restructuring the League, Bob's proposals do not appear to meet the demands of our supporters."

Forbes's response ran into immediate criticism from League headquarters. "Mr Forbes, like too many first division clubs, is prepared to allow his side to be fodder for the big boys," Williamson said. "The vast majority in the first division are already alarmed."

Gordon Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, said yesterday that his soundings indicated that the supporters' groups remained profoundly suspicious of the FA's plan, and it would be no surprise if the Newcastle following, a notably vociferous group, held similar views. Forbes has no plans to commit the Newcastle supporters.

Champions' perils, page 30
Bury's baptism, page 29

FA to meet Taylor for talks on drug testing

FOOTBALL Association officials are to hold talks with Gordon Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), in an attempt to resolve their differences over mandatory drug testing (see page 29).

The FA was last night unable to confirm whether it had executed its intention of conducting a drugs test at a Football League match on Saturday. "We had planned a drugs test for one game, but I am in the dark as to whether or not it went ahead," said a spokesman. "But we will shortly be talking to Gordon Taylor about drug testing, although it will be a case of how, not if, they are implemented."

The decision to introduce random compulsory testing was taken by the FA without having consulted the PFA or the League Managers' Association, and last week Taylor advised his members to refuse to offer urine samples.

"Taylor said: 'It is typical of the FA to act unilaterally and without consultation.' But he added that the PFA was not against testing if the FA informed participants of the testing procedures, banned substances and penalties."

which bobbed free for Lee to score from just inside the area.

Although Franz Carr - making his first League appearance for United following a £250,000 close season transfer from Nottingham Forest - caught Bolder out of position to halve the deficit from Roche's cross nine minutes from time, Newcastle failed to live up to the pre-season hype which heralded them as potential champions.

Although O'Brien, Clark and Beardsley offered occasional tantalising glimpses of their passing skills, the service to Quinn was virtually nonexistent, while Watson, the precocious teenager who proved the subject of a mysterious £1.5 million close season transfer bid, failed to make an impact at right back and was eventually substituted.

Oswaldo Ardiles, the Newcastle manager, said: "I was very, very disappointed. They closed us down well, but we did not play at all. I never mind losing, so long as we play our stuff, but we failed to show any of the abilities with the ball which we are renowned for. Maybe we were overconfident, but I do not believe we can play so badly again."

CHARLTON ATHLETIC: R Bolder, D Fletcher, S Morris, A Preece, S Giff, S Giff, R Lee, J Broughton, C Leach, G Nelson, C Webb.
NEWCASTLE UNITED: P Smith, S Watson, D Beardsley, L Clark, G Peacock, M Quinn, F Carr, B Stock (capt), D Rodon.
Referee: R H.

Aldridge returns, page 29

Essex's pitch queried

By IVO TENNANT

THE pitch at Colchester, on which 19 Northamptonshire wickets fell on Saturday, has been reported to the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB). The umpires have said that it is poor rather than unfit for first-class cricket and although Harry Brind, the TCCB's inspector of pitches, will examine it today, there is no question of Essex having points deducted.

Assuming Essex take the remaining wicket they need this morning, they will be 13 points behind Warwickshire, the Britannia Assurance county championship leaders. It is imperative for them to produce a satisfactory pitch for their second match of Colchester week, starting tomorrow against Yorkshire.

Two years ago Essex had 25 points deducted for an unfit pitch in the second match of Southend week - also against Yorkshire - after the one they used against Kent was reported by the umpires as being poor. That cost them the championship.

The umpires for this match, Ray Julien and Ray Tolchard, told the TCCB they were concerned as to how dry the pitch was and that the ball was turning sharply from the first day. The Essex spinners, Childs, Such and Salim Malik, took 16 of the 19 wickets.

"There was no question of the pitch being unfit but we have asked Harry Brind to see whether he feels it has been poorly prepared," Tim Lamb, the cricket secretary of the TCCB, said. As was the case at Southend, the pitch is owned and prepared by the local council.

Essex claimed the extra half-hour but were unable to beat Northamptonshire in two days. Surrey, who are 53 points behind Warwickshire with two matches in hand, are facing less well against Worcestershire. They are 84 runs behind with eight second-innings wickets remaining. Essex was back in form, scoring his sixtieth first-class century.

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Below-par Lancashire miss a chance

By RICHARD STREETON

OLD TRAFFORD (Lancashire won toss; Surrey (4pts) beat Lancashire by 21 runs)

LANCASHIRE missed their chance to remain top of the Refuge Assurance League yesterday when a below-strength Surrey team - Darren Bicknell and Wagar Younis were rested - stopped them reaching a target of 220. The league will not be decided until Lancashire and Nottinghamshire play their final matches next Sunday.

Lancashire, however, bowled and fielded below their best yesterday and were unable to overcome a poor start to their innings against zealous opponents for whom Thorpe made a maiden Sunday league hundred as he batted through their innings.

Fairbrother hit five fours as he made 62 from 58 balls to lead Lancashire's challenge. For all his apparent problems in galvanizing his side as a captain, Fairbrother remains a magnificent one-day batsman. Mendis was bowled in the first

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over when Lancashire batted and Fowler lifted a catch to short extra in the sixth.

It became 35 for three when Lloyd was run out by a superb throw from square-leg by Lynch, who with only one stump to aim at made a direct hit from 25 yards. Fairbrother and Atherton were the first to suggest the target was feasible but Atherton chopped a ball from Murphy into his stumps.

Lancashire wanted 83 from the last ten overs but lost Watkinson, who was fifth out when he was caught at extra cover. Wainwright pulled two huge

sixes against Robinson as he and Fairbrother put on 75 in 12 overs before the Pakistani was bowled by the same bowler. Fairbrother was run out in the next over after a horrible misunderstanding with DeFreitas and 45 from the last five overs proved too much for the tailenders.

Thorpe had not given a chance until a lofted pull against the penultimate ball of the innings went for four through DeFreitas's hands at midwicket. As always, Thorpe played numerous good-looking strokes and after two promising tours with England, he remains surprising that he does not score more consistently. He finished with a five and seven fours from 126 balls.

Surrey could well have made a larger total as only Allott and Austin bowled with proper direction, and some of the fielding was distinctly below par.

Surrey began and finished freely but were momentarily checked in mid-innings. Thorpe and Allister Brown, playing his first Sunday game

since May, took 61 from the first ten overs, treatment of a harsh nature that Allott and DeFreitas do not experience often. Thorpe benefited from four careless overthrows by Wasim Akram, an early portent that this was not going to be one of Lancashire's better days. Brown drove confidently until he lifted a catch to short midwicket in the thirteenth over. Stewart was bowled trying to drive Allott back over his head and Ward fell to a brilliant, right-handed catch by Hegg.

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England need Botham's full attention

By ALAN LEE

CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

UP TO three weeks ago the chances of Ian Botham playing the Christmas season on the world sporting stage rather than in provincial pantomime were remote. Following his selection for the Lord's Test match against Sri Lanka, which starts on Thursday, it is surely only a matter of time before Botham has to tell Max Boyce he must find a new co-star.

The great showman is also a great survivor, and he has profited from unusual circumstances. Defeat at Edgbaston provoked the "high-risk strategy" at the Oval and, by definition, this was made for Botham. He did all that could reasonably be expected on the field, more than was expected of it, and has been in prime county form either side of the Test. So he keeps his

place for a match in which most of the capped county players in England would fancy doing well.

Assuming Botham does not have a fatalistic urge to press the self-destruct button - something which has periodically happened - and assuming his 33-year-old joints do not let him down, there is no good reason to doubt that his credentials for one more winter tour - to New Zealand and the World Cup - will be authenticated in the coming week.

Then, of course, it will be up to him. He may favour the idea of playing only in the World Cup, which would allow him another lucrative season in *Question of Sport* as well as *Jack in the Beanstalk*.

No right-minded selector could permit Botham such self-indulgence, however, for he is at an age and of a physique which demands

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proper match fitness. He cannot, as he once did, excel through natural flair and athleticism alone, and the thought of him arriving at the world's premier and most exhausting one-day competition fresh from six weeks' treading the pantomime boards in Bournemouth is absurd.

It must be all or nothing for Botham and one hopes that the selectors have established his availability in advance but have not, as he misguidedly believed two

years ago, persuaded him with any promises. He is still a rare cricketer, who just might have an influential role to play as Graham Gooch's No. 2, but he is no longer a case for exemptions.

The same is plainly true of Graeme Hick. When he made his long-awaited England debut in June it was inconceivable that, come the last and least forbidding of the summer's six Tests, he would be unable to command a place. Despite Saturday's century against Surrey and Wagar Younis, that is undeniably the way it is and although his inclusion on the tour must remain probable, it is no longer inevitable.

Hick's place as No. 3 passed briefly and unproductively to Atherton, who has been overlooked for Lord's on fitness grounds but may well have been omitted on form. Stewart

will take over in the role he fills for Surrey rather than, as at the Oval, in a role he fills only for England. It is a predictable move but an unambitious one; the time was right to have another look at Hussain.

Russell's return as wicketkeeper is welcome and, with all-rounders in Botham and Lewis at No. 6 and No. 7, England have a more traditional balance to their side than at any time since Gooch resumed the leadership.

Five frontline bowlers will be included from a choice of six, but at Lord's, where the ball has turned recently, it is a pity that only one of the six is a spin bowler. Within an utterly reasonable selection, an unusual chance has been missed to indulge in mild experimentation. The game must be won but here, if ever there was one, is an opportunity to look ahead.

محمد امين المصطفى